FBIS DAILY REPORT

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PLO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RESUMES TALKS 25 JAN

JN251527Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1400 GMT 25 Jan 78 JN

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee resumed its meetings today for the second consecutive day in Beirut under brother Abu 'Ammar to discuss the latest developments of the current Arab situation in the area.

Committee Meeting on 26 Jan

JN261510Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1400 GMT 26 Jan 78 JN

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee continued its meetings for the third consecutive day under brother Abu 'Ammar, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, to complete its discussion of all aspects of the current situation on the Palestinian, Arab and international levels. It should be recalled that the Executive Committee began its meetings the day before yesterday.

Statement by PLO Spokesman

JN270616Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 27 Jan 78 JN

[Text] Beirut--A spokesman of the PLO Executive Committee stressed yesterday that the proposals of the head of the Egyptian regime, Anwar as-Sadat, are completely incompatible with the Algiers and Rabat Arab summit resolutions, which emphasized the national rights of the Palestinian people, particularly their right to return and to self-determination and to establish an independent state under the supervision of the PLO. This came in a statement by the PLO spokesman following the conclusion of the PLO Executive Committee meetings held in Beirut on Tuesday and Wednesday under Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

The spokesman said that Anwar as-Sadat's proposals are considered an echo of the U.S. plan. He affirmed that the Palestinian cause is important for the Palestinian Arab people both inside and outside occupied Palestine. The spokesman concluded his statement by saying: The current developments in the Middle East have proved that what was taken by force can be recovered only by force.

'ARAFAT ATTENDS FATAH CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING

JN261530Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1500 GMT 26 Jan 78 JN

[Text] The Fatah Central Committee held a meeting yesterday with brother leader Abu 'Ammar attending. The committee studied the latest developments in the situation on the various Palestinian, Arab and international levels. The committee also discussed the outcome of the visits that have been made by a number of members of the Central Committee to several Arab countries.

FATAH LEADERS MEET WITH LEBANESE LEADERS

JN251530Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1400 GMT 25 Jan 78 JN

[Text] Brother Abu Iyad, member of the Central Committee of the Fatah movement, yesterday met with Kamal Shatila, chairman of the Federation of the Working People's Forces in Lebanon. The meeting lasted almost an hour. They exchanged views on the latest developments in Lebanon and the Arab area.

Brother Abu Salih, member of the Central Committee of the Fatah movement, yesterday evening met with brother Ibrahim Qulaylat, chairman of the Command Council of the independent Nasirities--Al-Murabitun. The meeting was attended by brothers Samir Sabbagh, attorney Sinan Barraj and Samir (?Sadaq), member of the Command Council. During the meeting they reviewed the latest developments in the Arab and Lebanese situations.

PLO PARTICIPATES IN ISLAMIC CONFERENCE MEETING

JN251536Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1400 GMT 25 Jan 78 JN

[Text] The PLO is participating in the meetings of the fifth session of the Jerusalem committee stemming from the Islamic Conference. The committee meetings began last Monday in Jidda, Saudi Arabia. The Palestinian delegation is led by brother 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, PLO Executive Committee member, with brother Abu Tawfiq (Salih) as member. The radio correspondent has learned that during its meetings, the committee will discuss a report on the efforts being made by the Islamic Conference General Secretariat regarding the Palestinian issue at the United Nations and another report on the situation inside occupied Palestine. The committee will also discuss the bylaws of the Jerusalem fund, which includes Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Pakistan, Guinea and the PLO as members.

BOUMEDIENE'S SYRIA-IRAQ MEDIATION SAID TO SUCCEED

LD252136Y London AL-MANAR in Arabic 21 Jan 78 pp 1, 30 LD

[Excerpts] Damascus--President Boumediene's initiative to achieve reconciliation between Syria and Iraq in the manner AL-MANAR reported on 14 January has succeeded. The current belief is that Syrian-Iraqi dialog is due to begin any day, probably in Algiers.

Early this week Iraqi ambassador to Damascus Walid al-Khashali [as published] sent a report on the Syrian proposals on the question of reconciliation.

Observers in Damascus strongly believe that future Syrian-Iraqi relations will mark a major step on the road to strengthening the Arab front advocating rejection and steadfastness, not only from the aspect of political solidarity but particularly from that of military and economic solidarity.

It has been affirmed in Damascus that the massive shipments of new, highly sophisticated Soviet weapons flowing into Syrian ports and airports has strengthened the Syrian stand in relying on a strong eastern front that would be capable of changing the direction of the political and military situation in a direction opposite from what President as-Sadat thought he was capable of achieving. Moreover, Damascus now looks at the Egyptian-Israeli military and political talks with the awareness of one who knows in advance the outcome of such talks and their effect on the Egyptian domestic situation and on As-Sadat's relations with the Arab countries with which he has not yet fallen out. Therefore, the general belief in Damascus is that the Arab countries, which have so far shown moderation, will imminently declare their solidarity with the stand of steadfastness and opposition, particularly after they realize the effectiveness of the Syrian-Iraqi solidarity.

The interesting point in the new developments is that the Soviet Union's position will be different from its past position with regard to its relations with Syria and Iraq and to what is known as the Soviet presence in the Middle East.

The reason for talk about this point in particular are the impressions that Syrian and Iraqi officials came away with from their recent visits to Moscow. According to reports, the Soviets have become much less rigid in their Arab relations and have abandoned the intransigence and rigidity that previously characterized them and which caused them to lose many of their friends.

It appears that the Syrian officials dealing with Lebanese matters are very satisfied with recent developments related to military affairs, particularly those concerning the Palestinians and southern Lebanon.

An official in Damascus told AL-MANAR that Syria will not be lenient with any party that tries to undermine security in Lebanon and that it now stands more firm on this matter than ever before. Lebanese security, he said, is security for Syria at this stage in particular. The Syrian Government will no longer be lenient with those whom it considers to be obstructing the return of normality to Lebanon.

Although the source declined to throw further light on what he said, AL-MANAR has learned that Damascus is now considering taking political and military measures that would insure full support for the Lebanese Government in taking whatever measures it considers necessary to settle outstanding problems which so far it has been hesitant to deal with.

Damascus sources affirm that the results of Syrian steps in this regard are expected to be felt within the coming few weeks.

Boumediene Said To Fail

NC251557Y Cairo DPA in Arabic 1425 GMT 25 Jan 78 NC

[Excerpt] Beirut, 25 January--The Beirut daily LE REVIEL reports today that Algerian President Houari Boumediene has failed in his attempt to reconcile the disputing Ba'thist governments of Syria and Iraq. Earlier reports claimed that President Boumediene succeeded in his mission during his trips to Damascus and Baghdad. The paper says that both Boumediene and PLO deputy chief Abu Iyad tried in vain to obtain Baghdad's approval to hold an Iraqi-Syrian summit meeting on the occasion of the opening of the anti-As-Sadat steadfastness front in Algeria on 31 January. The paper adds that Syria expressed its readiness to attend a meeting on the border with Iraq or in Iraq itself provided the Iraqi Army participated in the battle against Israel.

ARAB REJECTIONIST SUMMIT TO BE HELD IN ALGIERS

LD261917Y Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Jan 78 LD

[Text] An APS reporter, quoting an informed source, says that the countries of the front of steadfastness and Palestinian resistance which met in Tripoli will reassemble at the summit level in Algiers on 2 and 3 February. The conference will be preceded by a preparatory session, which may include, it has been learned in Damascus from quarters close to the PLO, the defense and foreign ministers of the front of steadfastness. APS, quoting a reliable source in Algiers, adds that the ministerial session will be held on 31 January and 1 February and that Algeria has begun consultations on this matter with the countries of the front of steadfastness and the PLO. Ambassadors of the countries concerned were summoned to the Foreign Ministry, where they were given Algeria's invitation and the fixed dates for the summit and the ministerial session.

KUWAIT

AS-SIYASAH CALLS ON ARABS TO BACK AS-SADAT

LD242334Y Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 23 Jan 78 p 1 LD

[Ahmad al-Jarallah article: "Hasn't the Time Come for the Whole Arab Nation To Stand Behind This Man?"]

[Text] From an examination of President as-Sadat's speech [at the People's Assembly], it can indeed be said that he is not a man of treason, but rather that he has been and still is a man of endeavor. As-Sadat's speech has shown that both he and his foreign minister were not soft negotiators with the Israelis and were not seeking a separate solution.

As-Sadat's calculations may not be accurate but neither are the Israelis'. The Israelis thought that As-Sadat's trip to Israel was as if the emperor of Japan had gone to the United States after the bombing of Hiroshima. They imagined that he had gone to them with an endorsement of their continued presence in parts of Sinai and in the West Bank and Gaza as well as to give them a free hand in the Golan and southern Lebanon. This is in view of the hostility between As-Sadat and Al-Asad, whom Israel believes it can deal with. However, despite the miscalculations on both sides, the Egyptian president proved to be a touch negotiator--tougher in negotiations over the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan than over Sinai. This has proved to be contrary to the predictions of As-Sadat's adversaries, who stamped him as treasonous and wanted his initiative to fail. Indeed, the initiative might fail unless the Egyptian president has other alternatives which he has not yet made public. It is certain, however, that the world opinion now realizes that Israel does not want peace, that it is an expansionist state and that the Arabs, as the world's sixth power, are excused if they are forced to use strength against Israel.

The U.S. President's calculations may also be wrong and his statements contradictory, as he admitted in one of his speeches, but in the final analysis he indeed wants to achieve peace in the area, provided that this will not arouse difficulties for him in the domestic front because of the Jewish lobby.

It has now been proved that As-Sadat is not a man of treason but of endeavors; endeavors have both positive and negative aspects but in the final analysis they are the actions of honest people and not of traitors and fanatics. Therefore, the time has come for all the Arabs to stand on the side of the Egyptian president, who through his efforts has proved that Israel is indeed an expansionist state and has shown the Arabs that they must found their strategy on the basis of the psychological history of the Jewish mentality. Put briefly, this history has proved that greed has always been and still is fatal for the sons of Zion.

OMAN

PFLO CONDEMNS QABUS' TRIBAL COUNCIL PROJECT

LD262158Y Aden Voice of Oman in Arabic 1545 GMT 25 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] An important statement has been issued by the forces of the People's Liberation Army in the eastern sector.

The agent authority in Oman is trying to form a tribal council in the southern region of Oman, to be comprised of (?scholars) and tribal chiefs of the area. The aim of forming such a council is to [word indistinct] the tribal chiefs to implement the design, which constitutes a new and dangerous part of the plot against the masses of our people in Dhofar. The objective of this plot is to light the fire of civil and tribal war among the sons of the single homeland and to use them as a tool with which to realize the ambitions of the English and the Iranians. Because of the gravity of this plot, the forces of the Peoples Liberation Army in the eastern sector of the Dhofar region have addressed an important statement to our masses in the rural and urban areas of Dhofar to explain the aims of this plot. Here is the text of the statement:

To our struggling masses and honorable compatriots; to every nationalist who is zealous for his homeland, people and the soil of militant Oman, which is being swept away and [word indistinct] by the forces of invasion and Iranians; to all those who reject capitulation and humiliation: Your revolutionary vanguards and valiant revolutionaries address you in this statement to expose a new treacherous plot which the corrupt, treasonous regime has begun to implement by inviting agents and elders to sign it and by charging them with the responsibility of implementing this design, which constitutes a new and dangerous part of the plot to light the fire of civil and tribal war among the sons of the single homeland, with a view to dousing the nationalist spirit and hounding the revolution and its revolutionaries. This follows the failure of the Qabus regime and its repressive forces, using all forms of conspiratorial physical measures for 12 years, to achieve its aims of liquidating the revolution and the revolutionaries, exterminating the growing nationalist spirit and neutralizing the permanent operation now being mounted to resist the designs of the invaders and imperialists and their local agents.

There exists at the moment a serious tendency to use weak-spirited, weak-willed, ignorant and misguided individuals to form a tribal council of elders as an obedient tool with which to implement a treasonous capitulatory design. This council is being planned in London, Teheran and Muscat, and it is to comprise representatives of every tribe and area. The aims of its formation are as follows:

1. To dissolve [word indistinct] conflict and to deceive the people under the slogan of participating in the development of their country and having representatives to transmit their demands to the regime and following up their (?fulfillment);

2. In view of the intensification of the struggle against [word indistinct] (?through) patriotism and as a result of the rising confrontation of and resistance to the plots of the traitors and colonialists, the regime has decided [words indistinct] to buy with cash the wills of all our people and the blood of our noble martyrs as part of a plan to wipe out patriotism. This is to be done through the new elders appointed to the council;

3. To hound and liquidate the revolutionaries, every tribal chief and tribesman in his area will have to play his part in this and take repressive measures to implement it;

4. To extinguish the patriotism of every tribe [words indistinct] and render it supine and humiliated before the colonialists, invaders and local agents, whose fate is linked with that of the existing regime in Muscat and its masters;

5. To stir up problems and contradictions among sections of the people on the one hand, and between the revolutionaries and the countrymen on the other. It is to charge the elders with drawing up a dangerous program to achieve this aim (?in the hope) of bringing to realization the failed aspirations of the invading colonialists and of their agent Qabus;

6. To liquidate gradually the tribal units after this council is formed and to enlist [word indistinct] the young men of these units into the army commanded by the English, after the process of liquidating their units has been effected by the tribal chiefs and district tribal leaders for [words indistinct] of this scheme.

It is worth mentioning that the commanders of these unpatriotic units participated in meetings devoted to this scheme and are fundamentally party to its implementation and the strengthening of its political and conspiratorial aspects.

The implementation of this treasonous design began when (?Mizun), mother of the agent Qabus, summoned the agent Shaykh Musallam Ahmad (al-Ghabbash) and (?16) shaykhs from the [word indistinct] tribe, headed by private Shaykh Suhayl said (?Huwayran); private Shaykh Muhammad Masud Madan; and the criminal intelligence agent, Ali Muhammad [word indistinct], together with the commanders of the tribal units, under the tribal slogan that they are maternal uncles of the agent Qabus.

After a session of welcome and [word indistinct] for their national treason, they were told at this meeting: The regime (?is grateful to) you for the following reasons:

1. You are the first to have taken a leading part in the operation of the [word indistinct] movement to (?weaken) the revolution and to support the regime;

2. You are the first of those who [word indistinct] and offered their allegiance to the regime of Qabus;

3. You are the first of those to establish tribal military zones in the rural areas against the revolution.

In so doing you have made yourselves a model for the other tribes. Accordingly, in recognition of the treasonous position you have adopted against the revolution and the homeland, the authority will set up for you a special council to fulfill your demands.

At the end of this meeting, the agent regime paid the elders 11,000 Omani riyals together with clothes for their wives and some [word indistinct] in appreciation for their total allegiance to the agent authority and their stance in opposition to the revolution, the revolutionaries and the Omani masses.

At another working session, they asked them to sign the aforementioned scheme in order to make them an example for the other tribes to follow along this political road. The plan was secretly signed by some of the [word indistinct] shaykhs. Some of them signed without knowing the contents of the document, though others were (?aware) of the objective of the scheme right from the start.

After the signing ceremony an augmented meeting of 25 tribal shaykhs of Bayt al-Mashani was convened. Most of the shaykhs were newly appointed. The real objective was not mentioned at the meeting, but it was known to a few opportunists. This came about soon after the shah's visit to the regime of Muscat. Work is going ahead through secret invitations and closed sessions to implement the secret plan.

It is noteworthy that the masses rejected the plan. Many of the tribe of Bayt al-Mashani did not accept this conspiratorial plan. Only the agents and informers in the tribe did so.

Masses of our people: while the agent regime (?daily) showers fulsome praise on the tribe of Bayt al-Mashani for its treachery against the revolution and the people, we would like to tell them that the fascist regime butchered the best heroes and most honored men of this tribe. British aircraft bombed the farms of the Bayt al-Mashani. The agent regime of Qabus was the first regime to execute a member of this tribe in the southern region of Oman. He was Ahmad Ali [word indistinct].

[Word indistinct] shot to death in the streets of Salalah, and he was from the Bayt al-Mashani tribe, was Sa'id Suhayl Sirhan.

Many of those detained in the prisons of Qabus are honored persons from the families of the martyrs of this tribe, while others are still being pursued by the agent regime and its puppets. And if [words indistinct] went over to the side of the agent Qabus and his masters, there are still honored men among the tribe of Bayt al-Mashani who are proud of their homeland and nation, [words indistinct] will not hypocritically march with the regime of the traitors and Persian invaders.

Such men cannot forget the heroic martyrs, the martyrs of the glorious 9 June Revolution--men such as Ali Mhad and his brother, the heroic martyr Awad Mhad, Salim Mhad, Said Suhayl, Mhad [word indistinct], Ahmad Ali Mahrus, Hasan [word indistinct], Muhammad [word indistinct], Salim (Bajamil) and thousands of others--all martyrs of the Omani people.

Masses of our great people: We firmly warn anyone involved in the setting up of this treacherouscouncil that he will suffer the consequences of his betrayal.

For our part, we will strive to resist this scheme in every way possible, first with words of advice. [Word indistinct] to urge the masses to be vigilant with regard to this scheme and the consequences of conspiring against the people and the homeland. We ask the masses to expose all these schemes, which are not merely designed to disrupt the unity of our people. We emphasize that every conspirator will receive his just desserts and the revolutionaries of the 9 June Revolution will firmly oppose all plots. They are also ready to stop the activities of those traitors who are being led by the organs of British intelligence and their agents. We will forcefully halt every new conspiratorial scheme against the people, the revolution and the homeland.

Long live the glorious 9 June Revolution! Glory and immortality to the martyrs of the revolution! Down with the bugles of agents and the mercenaries of the Muscat regime [word indistinct]!

Issued by the forces of the Peoples Liberation Army of the PFLO, eastern sector, Dhufar region, 25 January 1978.

AS-SADAT MEETS WITH VISITING SUDANESE DELEGATION

NC261745Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1640 GMT 26 Jan 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 26 January--President Anwar as-Sadat has emphasized that the aim of the peace initiative is not a separate solution with Israel because such a solution would be easy to achieve and would not require such an initiative. He said the aim of the initiative is the achievement of a comprehensive political settlement.

His excellency pointed out that the initiative is being carried out in the light of day and not through secret meetings. He said that world public opinion has adopted the initiative and supports it. He said the initiative took Israel by surprise and it needs some time to change its old concepts.

President as-Sadat said he is in constant touch with U.S. President Jimmy Carter, who is fully aware of the dimensions of the situation and the role the United States should play for the establishment of peace and the definition of the next step in the peace process.

President as-Sadat made these remarks during his meeting with Sudanese Vice President and Foreign Minister ar-Rashid at-Tahir Bakr and the Sudanese ministers who had participated in the fifth meeting of the joint Egyptian-Sudanese Higher Committee for Economic Integration and Political Coordination. The meeting was attended by Vice President Husni Mubarak, Prime Minister Mamduh Salim, Deputy Prime Minister and Cabinet and Sudan Affairs Minister Muhammad Hafiz Ghanim and Egyptian Ambassador to Sudan Sa'd al-Fatatiri.

Opening the meeting, President as-Sadat welcomed Ar-Rashid at-Tahir Bakr and the Sudanese ministers and dear brothers who had come to their homeland Egypt. His excellency praised the pioneering pan-Arab stands of brother President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri. He also expressed thanks for the affectionate feelings and hospitality he was accorded by the Sudanese people during his excellency's recent visit to Khartoum.

President as-Sadat affirmed that Egypt and Sudan now have one joint will and they are waging the struggle of common fate together, within the framework of complete coordination and constant consultations. He said they are facing all the challenges of the age within the framework of noble aims stemming from the will and interests of the Sudanese and Egyptian peoples and from the hopes which the Arab nation is seeking to achieve at this decisive phase in the history of Arab struggle.

He said all this is natural because Egypt and Sudan are bound together by a common history dating back thousands of years, by unity of blood and by a social, cultural and spiritual unity that has bound them together in special and distinct relations throughout history.

President as-Sadat said Sudan and Egypt constitute two-thirds of the Arab nation from the aspects of manpower, territory and natural resources and that they live together in an important strategic position, a position which is a meeting point of the three continents and which is a strategic stronghold for the entire African Continent.

His excellency added that the people of Sudan and Egypt have enough scientists, technicians and technological and productive capability in the civilian and military fields to enable them to achieve economic and social development and establish a strong and lofty structure which will guarantee dignity, security and prosperity for the sons of the Nile Valley. This lofty structure is being established through the scientific integration of the two countries. This integration is not influenced by slogans and outbidding but is based on reality and on an assessment of the potential and capability and on a clear strategy to be developed and exploited in the interests of the people in Sudan and Egypt.

President as-Sadat said this scientific method has been proved correct by the past experiements of the Arab people when unity was mere slogans and political statements not based on actual economic, social or cultural integration.

President as-Sadat stressed that this new structure, based on a sound concept of national and pan-Arab work, will be a model that will live up to the aspirations and fulfill the ambitions of the Arab nation and all the Arab peoples.

His excellency asserted that the implementation of the Egyptian-Sudanese integration program which he cosigned with President Numayri must not be the sole responsibility of governments. First, he said, it is the responsibility of the two peoples, all compatriots, who must be given every opportunity to participate in bringing the integration about and to contribute with their work and funds to the integration projects.

After Ar-Rashid at-Tahir Bakr and Mamduh Salim explained the decisions of the fifth session of the committee, the president thanked the members of the higher ministerial committee for their efforts and for their decisions to strengthen the relations between the two countries. He urged them to eliminate all obstacles.

President as-Sadat said that he personally is related by blood to Sudan and, therefore, he feels that it is his duty, in cooperation with his brother President Ja'far Numayri, to open the way for the peoples of Egypt and Sudan to fulfill their common aspirations.

The president then explained Middle East developments, saying he is in constant touch with President Ja'far Numayri to brief him on the latest developments.

His excellency added that Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak will begin his next tour by visiting Sudan on Saturday to inform President Numayri of any potential developments.

President as-Sadat then explained the reasons for recalling the Egyptian delegation to the meetings of the Political Committee. He stressed the need for an agreement on principles, especially the recognition of the Palestinian people's right to determine their fate. He affirmed that Israel's failure to recognize this right is the main obstacle to peace.

At the end of the meeting, President as-Sadat asked Ar-Rashid at-Tahir Bakr and members of the Sudanese delegation to convey his greetings and sincere feelings to President Ja'far Numayri and the Sudanese people. He said that Egypt will support Sudan under all conditions and circumstances and will participate with it in its struggle and in facing all challenges.

Sudanese Delegation Leaves

NC261615Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1601 GMT 26 Jan 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 26 January--Sudanese Vice President ar-Rashid at-Tahir Bakr and his delegation left Cairo this afternoon after attending the meetings of the higher committee for integration between Egypt and Sudan. The meetings began in Cairo last Monday and ended yesterday. The Sudanese vice president was seen off at the airport by Prime Minister Mamduh Salim and a number of ministers and senior officials.

AS-SADAT INTERVIEWED BY SUDANESE PRESS AGENCY

LD261822Y Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 26 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] His Excellency Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, has said in an exclusive statement to SUNA that the full support of the Sudanese people and their leadership for the historic peace initiative has been a great motivating force.

President as-Sadat confirmed that the policy of Egypt and Sudan is characterized by daring and boldness and is divorced from slogans, mere talk and exaggeration.

Replying to a question on developments following his speech before the Egyptian People's Assembly, President as-Sadat said: I have exchanged letters with President Carter and contacts are being made for agreement on the next step. His excellency said the U.S. assistant secretary of state will come to Cairo next week to meet Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil.

On Egypt's stand toward Israel's persistent refusal to withdraw from all Arab territory and to recognize the Palestinian right to self-determination, President as-Sadat said: I do not believe that after this long road and after the support of the whole world for this initiative--which is no longer merely an Egyptian initiative but has become the initiative of every person in the world--I do not believe that the initiative will come to an end. However, we are prepared for every eventuality and will face every possible development. We will not close the door and we will not say no.

KAMIL EXPLAINS PEACE EFFORTS TO ARAB ENVOYS

NC262130Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1955 GMT 26 Jan 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 26 January--Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil met this evening with the ambassadors and representatives of the Arab countries in Cairo within the framework of Egypt's moves to explain the developments of the situation as far as peace efforts in the area are concerned.

The 75-minute meeting was attended by PLO Political Department Deputy Chief Sa'id Kamal as well as all the ambassadors of the Arab countries in Cairo with the exception of the ambassadors of the five rejectionist front states, with which Egypt has severed diplomatic relations. Djibouti did not attend because it does not yet have an embassy in Cairo.

Moroccan Ambassador Abellatif Laraki, in his capacity as doyen of the Arab diplomatic corps, said that the Egyptian foreign minister presented a comprehensive review of the latest developments in the Middle East since President as-Sadat's courageous initiative and the meetings that took place afterward, including the Ismailia and Cairo meetings and the meetings of the Political and Military committees.

He said that Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil also explained the efforts that are now being exerted to reassess the situation on the basis of the need for a response to the Arab demands and for a resumption of the negotiations to achieve the Arab nation's demands and rights.

He said the Arab ambassadors expressed thanks for the continuous opportunity they have been given to familiarize themselves with the situation and all aspects of the steps that are being taken. The Moroccan ambassador added that as far as Morocco's position is concerned, King Hassan II has often emphasized that the Moroccan king, government and people support President Anwar as-Sadat and his courageous stands. They are also certain that President as-Sadat is the qualified defender of the Arab nation's rights.

After the meeting, Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil said he had briefed the ambassadors of the Arab countries on what took place during the Political Committee meeting in Jerusalem as well as on all the developments and contacts that have been taking place since President as-Sadat's initiative. He said that his meeting with the Arab ambassadors falls within the framework of Egypt's policy to familiarize the Arab brothers with all the developments, particularly with what has happened in recent weeks.

The foreign minister added that the discussions during the meeting also dealt with the specific principles which we want to achieve from the talks with Israel. He said that he explained to the Arab ambassadors the notes that have been exchanged, both Egyptian and Israeli.

Replying to a question, the foreign minister said: Our hearts are open to every constructive idea that will achieve the goal and principles we are seeking. He added that Egypt's stand is clear and well defined. We called on all the Arab sides concerned to attend the Cairo meeting, but they did not respond to the call. As for the PLO, we have not severed our relations with it but have invited it to attend the Cairo meeting. It also failed to respond and contented itself with issuing statements and adopting stands.

The foreign minister emphasized that Egypt is eager to maintain Arab solidarity, which it has always worked for, and to achieve the goals of the Arab nation.

On the Egyptian side, the meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Under Secretary Sa'd 'Afrah, Arab Department Director Ambassador 'Izz al-'Arab, and Foreign Ministry Office Director Minister Plenipotentiary Ahmad Mahir.

Kamil Statement After Meeting

NC2620302 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 26 Jan 78 NC

[Text] Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil said after his meeting with the ambassadors of the Arab states in Cairo this evening that he had briefed the Arab ambassadors on the current developments in the Middle East. He added that President as-Sadat's instructions are that the Arab states should know what has happened and the results of the meetings of the Political Committee.

He said that Vice President Husni Mubarak will make a tour of the Arab states for the same purpose. He emphasized Egypt's concern for Arab solidarity, which means strength. He added that the U.S. role is important and we hope that it will lead to the fulfillment of the principles that we advocate.

The foreign minister also spoke about the current diplomatic activity. He said it is very important that world public opinion and world governments should know what has happened. The aim of the Egyptian move is to confirm the attitudes of the declared positions of the various states on the Arab-Israeli conflict and the need to implement the UN resolutions and fulfill the Palestinian people's rights, especially since the world is interested in peace in the area, the instability of which affects world peace.

The foreign minister said that the Cairo preparatory conference and the Political and Military committees are still in existence and that the resumption of the talks depends on what Israel offers as an acceptable basis in harmony with our principles.

He added that Egypt has not severed its relations with the PLO, that the PLO was invited to attend the Cairo conference, and that the invitation to the rejection states still stands if they change their attitudes.

PLO Representative's Reaction

NC262050Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2030 GMT 26 Jan 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 26 January--Sa'id Kamal, the deputy chief of the PLO's Political Department, who attended the meeting which Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil held with Arab ambassadors in Cairo this evening, has stated that he will immediately convey everything that took place at the meeting to the PLO command.

It has been learned that Sa'id Kamal asked the foreign minister during the meeting whether Egypt still believes that the importance of the U.S. role is 99 percent or whether this importance now rests with Israel. Foreign Minister Kamil answered that the U.S. role is very important and will become more important in the coming stage.

MORE ON GHALI MEETING WITH AFRICAN AMBASSADORS

NC261558Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 26 Jan 78 NC

[Text] After meeting with the heads of the African diplomatic missions in Cairo today, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali said that President Anwar as-Sadat has sent letters to the African heads of state. He also said that today's meeting was held at the direction of President as-Sadat in order to get the African leaders to share in the peace initiative and that the African states must follow up the efforts which Egypt is exerting to establish peace in this area.

Dr Ghali added that Egypt needs Arab and African solidarity and that with this we will achieve peace. He also said that he will tour a number of African states to explain the Egyptian attitude to African public opinion.

Dr Ghali further said that he briefed the representatives of the African states on the development of President as-Sadat's initiative. He emphasized that the bodies which were set up to implement the initiative still exist and that the desire for peace is an important factor.

Dr Ghali then spoke about the U.S. role to surmount the obstacles which led to the breakdown of the talks. He said: We demand a comprehensive settlement in implementation of Security Council Resolution 242 and the resolutions of the Arab summit conferences. He added: The next step after the declaration of principles will be up to the parties involved.

He went on to say that the Cairo conference is preparatory to the Geneva Conference and that Cairo has no objection to any meeting which seeks the establishment of peace in the Middle East.

Dr Ghali reaffirmed Egypt's stand that there must be no settlements because they violate Egyptian sovereignty and constitute a hidden military presence.

On Egypt's attitude toward the African states, Dr Ghali said that Egypt adheres to the principles of Addis Ababa which stipulate that African conflicts must be solved within an African framework and that it supports the African liberation movements.

DPA Report

NC2620182 Cairo DPA in Arabic 1945 GMT 26 Jan 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 26 January--Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali has stated that Egypt is prepared to grant the Israeli settlers in Sinai the right of residence for a "limited period" similar to the rights guaranteed for other foreign citizens in Egypt. Ghali, who was speaking to the African ambassadors, said that the settlements in their present form cannot be part of a peace treaty because they represent a disguised military presence on Egyptian territory.

Ghali briefed the African ambassadors on the current Egyptian position in the peace efforts--the efforts for achieving a declaration of principles for peace in the Middle East. He said that after such a declaration is reached, detailed negotiations can be held through bilateral or multilateral committees.

KAMIL SAYS PEACE TALKS RESUMPTION UP TO ISRAEL

NC2621162 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2046 GMT 26 Jan 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 26 January--Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil has confirmed that the Cairo preparatory conference for peace and the Political and Military committees stemming from it are still in existence. He added that Egypt has explained its stand and then followed this stand at the Jerusalem meetings and that it is up to the other side to make a move. He explained that the resumption of the activities of the Political and Military committees depends on the other side's submission of a reasonable basis conforming with our principles.

In press statements tonight, Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil also said that our rights are based on the principles of international law and the Security Council resolutions which do not permit the occupation of territory by force. He pointed out that it was Israel which started the 1967 war and occupied our Arab territory and that there are no international laws or treaties which give it the right to occupy our territories.

Asked about foreign reports about the transfer of the meeting site of the Political Committee, Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil said that this subject is not under discussion at present.

Answering a question on the present U.S. role, the foreign minister said: What concerns us about the U.S. role is that it should lead us to the results which we seek and which conform with right, logic and international law. He added: We are interested in familiarizing world public opinion, particularly those states which have influence in the area, with all the developments and with the Egyptian point of view.

He added: We want these states to maintain their previous stands and their efforts to implement the UN resolutions, particularly those related to the rights of the Palestinian people. He stressed that the entire world is interested in establishing peace in the Middle East because instability in this area will affect world peace and international interests.

GHALI INTERVIEWED ON PARIS RADIO PROGRAM

[Editorial report LD] Paris Domestic Service in French at 1820 GMT on 26 January in its "The Telephone Is Ringing" program carries a live interview with Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, in Cairo. Ghali answers French telephoned questions by listeners in the Paris studio, Paris radio's correspondent in Jerusalem Andre Soemama, and Israeli radio correspondent Henry (Bavogne). Ghali is accompanied in Cairo by correspondent Christian Billmann.

After discussing the breakdown in negotiations, Ghali is asked about President as-Sadat's statement in Israel that the Yom Kippur war was the last Israeli-Egyptian war. Ghali replies: "I still think that the Yom Kippur war was the last between our two countries. Having said this, there is still what is called legitimate defense, and if someone ever attacks or assaults (?us), or if ever we were not able to guarantee the sovereignty of our country, our country would be forced to defend itself. But I hope, like you, like all public opinion in this part of the world, that the October war was the last war between our two countries."

Ghali is then asked whether President as-Sadat's sudden decision to halt the talks between Israel and Egypt was part of scenario carefully prepared for the purpose of putting pressure on Israel. He responds: "I am not of this opinion. The decision was made as a result of the difficulties encountered by the experts of the Political Committee in Jerusalem, and the negotiations have not been halted; they have been suspended."

This same questioner then says: "This gesture of President as-Sadat's in going to Israel was a very courageous gesture, but I do not think that this gesture means that Israel does not have to restore all the territories for there to be a chance that there really could be a peace which would remain just and lasting in the entire Middle East."

Ghali answers: "President as-Sadat's gesture was an act of faith. It was an act of faith in peace, and if one accepts this act of faith, everything is then negotiable. One must accept this act of faith. This means accepting the (?other thing), accepting the Palestinians, the existence of the Palestinians. Afterward one can negotiate, and through negotiations one can obtain all the formulas that would give birth to a true peace in this region."

Ghali goes on to say that results cannot be expected immediately after 30 years. He outlines the Egyptian position on Sinai and on Palestinian self-determination.

Asked whether negotiations could resume rapidly, he replies: "There are numerous obstacles but I hope that the American mediator will do his best to surmount these obstacles, and if they are surmounted the Political and Military committees could resume."

Ghali says most Arab countries support Egypt. There is a further discussion of the Palestinian question and of As-Sadat's initiative. He stressed the need for first reaching an agreement on general principles, after which the interested parties would then negotiate.

Asked if he thinks there can be peace in the Middle East if the United States agrees but the Soviet Union does not, Ghali says: "No. I think that in the final or ultimate stage there will be a return to Geneva, since we have [word indistinct] an organization created by Resolution 338--at that moment the participation of the Soviet Union will be important to finalize this agreement."

In reply to a question about arms, Ghali reiterates that as long as there is no peace treaty, Egypt must defend itself. He says it is essential to let the moderates act. He hopes that the next round of talks with the Israelis will rely less on the mass media and more on diplomacy.

He then discusses the rise of Palestinian nationalism and reiterates the Egyptian stand on the Palestinian question. He concludes by saying that he is neither optimistic nor pessimistic about the resumption of negotiations but rather realistic.

CAIRO RADIO REACTS TO BEGIN STATEMENT ON SINAI

NC261609Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 26 Jan 78 NC

[Text] Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin, in a statement which the Israeli newspaper HA'AREZ published today, reiterated his views on the disarmament of Sinai and the size of the Egyptian forces there. He alleged that President as-Sadat had promised him that he would demilitarize the largest part of Sinai.

It is known that President as-Sadat, in his speech at the People's Assembly last Saturday, addressed Menahem Begin saying: Our land is sacred and the rights of our people are sacred. Our safety and security are sacred, too. We will not abandon one inch of our land.

In his speech, the president defined very clearly the main points on which Egypt bases its stand on the question of security, which Israel keeps arguing about. These points deal mainly with Israel's withdrawal from Sinai, the Golan Heights, the West Bank and Gaza. The president said that Egypt is prepared to establish demilitarized zones on both sides and not on the largest part of Sinai, as the Israeli prime minister alleges.

AL-AHRAM: AS-SADAT, CARTER CONTACTS CONTINUING

NC270836Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0615 GMT 27 Jan 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 27 January--AL-AHRAM says today that contacts are continuing between Presidents Anwar as-Sadat and Jimmy Carter and that within the framework of these contacts the two presidents have exchanged a number of messages in the past 2 days. AL-AHRAM says that the assistant secretary for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, Alfred Atherton, is expected in Cairo soon to hold discussions with Foreign Minister Muhammad Kamil and brief him on the results of his contacts in Jerusalem.

MENA NOTES PREPARATIONS FOR ATHERTON VISIT

NC262210Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2105 GMT 26 Jan 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 26 January--U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Alfred Atherton will arrive in Cairo in the middle of next week. During his visit, Atherton will present Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil with the results of his talks with the Israeli officials. He will also acquaint himself with Egypt's stand and viewpoint.

It has been learned that Egypt has completed the preparation of its observations on the points which U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance presented during his recent visit to Cairo and that these observations will be presented to Atherton while he is in Cairo. It is worth noting that Egypt has not yet received the Israeli formula for the principles of peace.

It has been learned that the next step with regard to what is taking place between Egypt and Israel has not yet been defined and that new developments in this respect might appear in the next 2 days.

MENA COMMENTS ON DISINTEGRATION OF SOVIET SATELLITE

NC271058Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0940 GMT 27 Jan 78 NC

[Excerpts] Cairo, 27 January--The fall of the Soviet satellite, Cosmos 954, in Canadian territory last Tuesday has led to a number of questions being asked by observers concerned with the strategy of nuclear war and space technology.

With space conquest projects increasing in all fields, including the military field, a guarantee that an incident similar to the one that occurred with the Soviet satellite would be avoided would be to establish a UN space information center and to pass international legislation forbidding any state from keeping secret any information such as that kept by the Soviet Union in the Cosmos 954 incident.

YUGOSLAV ENVOY MEETS KAMIL, DELIVERS TITO MESSAGE

NC251217Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1200 GMT 25 Jan 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 25 January--Minister of Foreign Affairs Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil today met with Yugoslav Ambassador to Egypt Aleksandar Bozovic. It was learned that the Yugoslav ambassador delivered a message from Yugoslav President Tito for President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat. It was also learned that the meeting dealt with the latest developments in the Middle East situation, particularly in light of the freezing of the work of the joint Egyptian-Israeli Political and Military committees. The talks also dealt with the Egyptian viewpoints and the principles which Egypt adheres to, particularly in relation to the complete withdrawal from all the Arab territories and the right of self-determination of the Palestinian people.

PAPERS WELCOME TITO SUPPORT, VIEW MILITARY BALANCE

LD270336Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2300 GMT 26 Jan 78 LD

[Press review]

[Excerpts] Cairo, 26 January--In tomorrow's issues Cairo papers report in banner headlines the news of the current large-scale Egyptian diplomatic campaign to explain the reasons why the Egyptian-Israeli talks are faltering. The papers also prominently report Vice President Husni Mubarak's trip which will begin on Saturday and will cover eight Arab countries and Iran in order to deliver messages to the presidents and kings of these countries regarding developments in the Middle East situation.

The news of the political contacts that Alfred Atherton, assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, is carrying out with Israeli officials appears on the front pages of Cairo newspapers.

The papers, quoting news agencies, report Atherton's statement in which he said that some progress has been made regarding the declaration of principles of peace in the Middle East and that the Egyptian-Israeli Political Committee will not resume its work immediately.

The papers also publish a statement by Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan declaring that agreement on a declaration of principles is imminent.

In its editorial AL-AHRAM discusses the role of the nonalined countries in the peace process in the light of Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito's message to President Anwar as-Sadat expressing support for his efforts to achieve peace in the Middle East.

This message, the paper says, comes at an important juncture when all the countries interested in the establishment of peace in that area must seek to support such efforts and bring pressure in order to implement the resolutions that the world community has adopted regarding the bases for a peaceful settlement.

The paper says that the nonalined countries have always hastened to support Arab rights in the Arab-Israeli conflict and adopted firm stands in this regard. The paper says that although many quarters are trying to interfere in the situation here and there, the stand of the nonalined states, headed by Yugoslavia, in support of Arab rights and the stands expected to be taken by other international groups such as the European Community in support of the peace initiative will contribute to overcoming fabricated difficulties and bring international pressureto bear on Israel, which is still incapable of adapting to the new situation and concepts that are necessary in order to establish a just peace in the area.

In an article entitled "Peace and the Military Balance," AL-AKHBAR refers to the relationship between peace among the world's major powers and the balance of military power between them. The article says that disturbing this balance in favor of one power or another would encourage aggression and the unleashing of a destructive war.

The paper adds: This relationship between the military balance of power and the achievement of peace applies to the Middle East because Israel thinks with a mentality ruled by the logic of power and not the logic of right and justice. It is on the basis of this logic that Israel sets conditions for peace that would mean its further expansion; it relies on its belief in military superiority over the Arabs.

Continuing, the paper says that Israel's negotiating method is not based on the international legality of UN resolutions; it stems from its realization that the imbalance of military power between itself and the Arabs is in its favor and therefore acts on the basis of its illusion that it can impose peace, as Israel understands it, on the Arabs.

Concluding, the paper says: In order for real peace to be achieved in this vital area of the world, a firm stand must be adopted in the face of the intransigent Israeli attitude, which relies on a vast stockpile of the latest U.S. weapons. This should be done by imposing a complete ban on further arms shipments to Israel and providing Egypt with the arms it needs to achieve a military balance capable of curbing Israel's aggressive conditions and insuring that real peace is established on the basis of mutual security, mutual trust and mutual military balance, which rules international relationships.

OMANI INTERIOR MINISTER CONCLUDES VISIT

JN261504Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1450 GMT 26 Jan 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 26 January--Omani Interior Minister Muhammad ibn Ahmad and the delegation accompanying him left Baghdad for Muscat this afternoon following a 3-day official visit to Iraq.

Muhammad ibn Ahmad expressed his appreciation for the hospitality accorded him and his delegation during the visit. He also expressed his satisfaction with the outcome of the talks he had with Iraqi officials.

On the other hand, Mubarak al-Khudayri, Omani minister of health and member of the delegation, said that he had talks with Iraqi officials on the possibilities of cooperation between the two fraternal countries in the medical field, particularly preventive medicine and the exchange of medical know-how in the Arab Gulf area.

The delegation was made up of Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Yusuf al-'Alawi and a number of officials from the foreign and interior ministries.

MINISTER OUTLINES GOVERNMENT'S OIL POLICY

JN251722Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1645 GMT 25 Jan 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 25 January--Tayih 'Abd al-Karim, member of the Revolution Command Council [RCC] and minister of oil, has affirmed that the nationalization of the oil wealth in Iraq has created suitable conditions for the establishment of an integrated national oil industry and huge oil projects, such as the Al-Bakr Harbor, the strategic line and the Iraqi-Turkish pipeline, as well as the formation of a large fleet of tankers.

In his meeting today with the heads of the Iraqi diplomatic missions in the Arab countries, 'Abd al-Karim reviewed Iraq's oil policy on the Arab and international levels. He affirmed that Iraq backs and supports any state which seeks to control its oil wealth. Iraq also seeks to secure the real value of oil and to strengthen OPEC.

'Abd al-Karim said: Our battle with oil monopolies was crowned by the decision to nationalize and invest oil nationally, placing it at the service of development and the pan-Arab battle. He referred to Iraq's policy regarding the question of programming [word indistinct] production to eliminate the artificial surplus. He said that Iraq is working to put an end to the imperialist conspiracies aimed at forming and controlling a strategic reserve.

Tayih 'Abd al-Karim affirmed that Iraq supports the employment of oil as a firm weapon to realize the interests of the Arab nation. It also seeks to use the [word indistinct] of nationalization in the interests of our nation and the liberation of Palestine. He explained the importance of investing Arab oil funds in the Arab homeland and supporting joint Arab projects. He opposed the policy of surpluses and the investment of capital in Western states and banks.

PLANNING MINISTER OUTLINES DEVELOPMENT PLAN

JN261210Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0952 GMT 26 Jan 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 26 January--'Adnan Husayn, RCC member and minister of planning, has said that the average personal income in Iraq will be raised to 580 dinars--equal to $1,800--annually by 1980. He added that the average personal income in 1977 was equivalent to 370 dinars, or $1,150. Thus the annual increase of individual income as specified in the 1976-80 national development plan will be 13.3 percent.

'Adnan Husayn said this in a lecture on the annual development plan for 1978, which he delivered at the Iraqi Economists Association last evening.

'Adnan Husayn stressed that, according to the plan for 1978, average national income will grow by 16.8 percent and that the plan has taken into consideration the current situation in our society and the political conditions surrounding it, that is, the connection with the ideology of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party.

He said that the plan is aimed at achieving a growth rate of 17 percent in the industrial sector, 15 percent in the services sector and 7.1 percent in the agricultural sector. It is also aimed at achieving a growth rate of 32 percent in the (?processing industry) and 17 percent in the distribution sector.

The minister of planning noted that the gross central allocations in the plan for the sectors of services, the labor force and education amount to 2.8 billion dinars, that is, 24 times the allocations provided for in the 1970 investment program and 5 times those in the 1970-74 development plan.

The minister further said that one of the major guidelines governing the plan is that of building a balanced national economy and providing balanced means to the sectors of the national economy.

The minister added that the plan stresses an extraordinary formula for the agricultural sector to enable it to perform a more pronounced role and achieve an economic surplus for national and political considerations. It also stresses the necessity of continuing to promote the plan because it plays a pioneering role.

'Adnan Husayn also said that the annual development plan gives special emphasis to manpower and provides every opportunity for the masses to participate in the construction process. It also stressed the considerations governing the organization and inclusion of strategic and other projects aimed at putting an end to monopolies.

He said that the plan also stresses expanding public service projects at a rate equal to that of the growth of the national income. These public services are rural housing and industry and compulsory education. Special emphasis has been placed on rural services projects through a just distribution of the growth rate between the city and the countryside.

KHADDAM HITS AS-SADAT'S MOVES IN MAGAZINE INTERVIEW

JN270743Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 27 Jan 78 JN

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has affirmed that the course taken by As-Sadat cannot lead to a just and lasting peace because this course does not insure for the Arabs and the Palestinian Arab people their national rights.

In an interview with the Lebanese magazine AL-HAWADITH, Khaddam said: We have not for a moment forgotten Zionism's way of thinking or its aims and methods. This is why we stressed to As-Sadat that his visit would only serve the enemy's aims. Khaddam added: To call As-Sadat's visit to Israel an initiative is an attempt to deceive and cover up the truth, which is no longer a secret. As-Sadat's journey is part of a tripartite U.S.-Israeli-Egyptian plan.

Khaddam said that because As-Sadat's visit to Israel was not his own initiative, he thus has no power to stop the talks with Israel. Khaddam stressed that As-Sadat's visit to Israel was prearranged and agreed on in advance. What his former Foreign Minister Isma'il Fahmi has stated is proof of this. The deputy prime minister and foreign minister said that As-Sadat's visit is part of a drawn-up plan to achieve three [as heard] aims:

1. The U.S. aim of imposing full control over the Arab area in preparation for imposing control over Africa and tightening the grip on Western Europe and Japan.

2. The Israeli aim of removing Egypt from the Arab arena, abolishing its role in the confrontation and creating disputes in the Arab homeland so as to liquidate the Palestinian cause once and for all and use Egypt--through the peaceful relations that will be established between Egypt and Israel--as a conduit of Israeli interests in the Arab homeland.

According to Khaddam, As-Sadat's aim--but not Egypt's--is not to recover the Sinai or support the Palestinian cause. These are the last things that occupy his mind. As-Sadat is dreaming of a role in Africa far beyond Egypt. In dreaming like this, he is the victim of a mental complex.

Khaddam said: As-Sadat's mind is occupied more with Arab money than with the Sinai or the Palestinian cause. He knows that the plan which has been drawn up is much more important than the occupied lands, the rights of the Palestinians and the fanaticism of Menahem Begin.

In answer to a question on whether As-Sadat's decision was spontaneous and thus not preceded by studies or agreements, Khaddam said: Not preceded by agreements, yes. [as heard] However, regarding the studies, it was not As-Sadat who made them, but others. His role was confined to implementing them. Khaddam said: If As-Sadat had been interested solely in the Arab-Israeli conflict, he would not have visited occupied Jerusalem.

At this point Khaddam summarized what took place between President Hafiz al-Asad and As-Sadat during the latter's last visit to Syria. President al-Asad told As-Sadat: What do you expect the Israelis to give you in return for this visit? You will give them everything--recognition, legitimacy and acceptance of the principle of dealing with them. This is in addition to the fact that the visit in itself is a stab in the back of the dignity of the Arab nation. If Israel refuses to give anything under conditions of Arab solidarity, will it give you anything under conditions of an inevitable struggle that will rage between you and the Arabs as a result of this visit?

Khaddam said: For 7 full hours President al-Asad tried to persuade As-Sadat with logic and figures that he would get nothing from the Israelis as a result of this visit. Nevertheless, As-Sadat insisted on making the visit and this strengthened our conviction that it was not up to him to decide and that the visit was arranged in advance.

All that As-Sadat did before and after the visit was to surround it with a theatrical atmosphere to give the impression to the Arabs that the decision was his and not somebody else's.

Regarding As-Sadat's often-repeated statement that Egypt is the key to peace and war, Khaddam said: As-Sadat is trying to delude the Arabs and the world into believing that Egypt's ruler is the master of the Arab world. This is not true. Egypt's rulers have never decided war or peace in the area, neither in modern nor in ancient history.

Khaddam affirmed that Egypt's exit from the battlefield does not mean the Arab nation's collapse. Syria's potentials, with some Arab backing, are enough to insure a strategic balance in the area.

Asked about Syria's stand on the call for convening an Arab summit conference in which As-Sadat would participate, Khaddam said: Of course we will refuse. Any conference in which As-Sadat participates is out of the question, because we refuse to see the Arab nation exploited to cover up a vicious conspiracy against the rights of its sons, as well as against their pride and dignity. By visiting occupied Jerusalem and demolishing the wall between Tel Aviv and Cairo, As-Sadat has undermined Arab solidarity and injured Arab dignity. He has become a small instrument for implementing a big international conspiracy.

Khaddam described what has taken and is taking place between As-Sadat and Begin as a conspiracy and not a settlement. He said: All the vituperations taking place between them are only an attempt to implement the Egyptian-Israeli-U.S. agreement under the guise of intransigence and inflexibility and to help some Arab voices in their demand for supporting the Egyptian president's policy.

FORMER LEBANESE PRIME MINISTER KARAMI MAKES VISIT

JN261237Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 26 Jan 78 JN

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received at 1300 today former Lebanese Prime Minister Rahsid Karami and former Lebanese Minister Malik Salam.

Rashid Karami and Malik Salam arrived in Damascus this morning and were received at the Syrian-Lebanese border point by Adib Milhim, minister of state for presidential affairs and several protocol officials.

Talks With Al-Asad

JN261431Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1325 GMT 26 Jan 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 26 January--At 1300 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received former Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami and former Lebanese Minister Malik Salam. During the meeting, the president reviewed with them the situation in Lebanon and the positive developments toward the restoration of its normal situation. Talks were also held on the current situation in the Arab region and the efforts being made to consolidate the steadfastness of the Arab nation in the face of the capitulatory attempts.

Rashid Karami and Malik Salam had lunch with the president. Also present at lunch were 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Maj Gen Naji Jamil, National Command member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party; 'Abd al-Karim 'Adi, minister of state for foreign affairs; and Adib Milhim, minister of state for presidential affairs.

Karami Makes Statement

JN261700Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 26 Jan 78 JN

[Text] Former Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami and former Lebanese Minister Malik Salam arrived in Damascus this morning.

In a statement upon his arrival, Rashid Karami said: The unity of objectives and principles and the dangers surrounding us make it incumbent upon the Arab nation to unify its ranks and efforts to confront the dangers and plots that are being concocted against its existence and rights. Karami added: Therefore, the consultation among the Arab brothers and the exchange of views are the best way to strengthen the Arab position and to unify the steadfast forces to confront this raging storm which I believe will founder, just as the other waves did in the past, together with the policy of alliances, blocs and axes which constituted a part of the imperialist-Zionist exports.

Karami asserted that the Arab nation, with all its material and human resources, is capable of performing its task and of thwarting all the plots against it.

Karami and Salam left Damascus this afternoon. They were seen off at the Syrian-Lebanese border by Adib Milhim, minister of state for presidential affairs and several protocol officials.

BA'TH OFFICIAL RECEIVES GDR ENVOY, ERITREAN LEADER

JN191329Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1300 GMT 19 Jan 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 19 January--Comrade Dr Fawwaz Sayyagh, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command and chairman of the Foreign Relations Bureau, received in his office at noon today the GDR ambassador in Damascus.

During the meeting relations between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] were discussed. The talks also dealt with the visit of a SED delegation to Syria at the invitation of the Ba'th Party National Command.

Dr Sayyagh earlier met with Osman Salam Saabe, chairman of the executive committee of the Eritrean Popular Liberation Forces, and held talks with him on the latest developments in Eritrea and the Horn of Africa. The talks also dealt with Eritrean national unity, its importance and the need for it to be established so as to enable the Eritrean people to achieve their aims of freedom and independence.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION PLAN SIGNED WITH LIBYA

JN221740Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 22 Jan 78 JN

[Text] Damascus--Jamil Shayya, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, and Jadallah 'Azzuz at-Talhi, Libyan secretary of industry and minerals, last night signed a plan on joint economic cooperation between Syria and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Dr Muhammad al-'Imadi, minister of economy and foreign trade, also signed an agreement stemming from this formula. The plan of economic cooperation between the two fraternal countries provides for setting up relations of cooperation in various economic, industrial, agricultural trade and investment domains. It also provides for creating a joint investment company with $100 million capital to be shared equally by the two fraternal countries. The task of this company is to implement industrial and agricultural projects as well as to create joint industry and other projects for developing the planting of grain and for developing other economic, industrial and agricultural areas.

HUNGARIAN, SYRIAN PEACE COUNCILS CONDEMN AS-SADAT

JN210750Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 21 Jan 78 JN

[Text] Damascus--At the invitation of the National Council of the Peace Partisans Movement in Syria, a delegation of the Hungarian National Peace Council headed by Nandorne Sbestyen, secretary general of the council, visited Syria 14 to 19 January 1978.

During the visit, the delegation held talks with a delegation of the National Council of the Peace Partisans Movement in Syria headed by Comrade George Saddiqni, chairman of the council. The two delegations discussed the situation in the Middle East and recent developments resulting from the Egyptian regime's recent steps. They condemned these steps and agreed that they are heading toward a separate solution between Egypt and Israel, and that they might alienate a just and comprehensive solution which should be based on Israel's withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories and the guaranteeing of the Palestinian people's national rights, including their right to repatriation, self-determination and establishment of their national independent state.

The two delegations also agreed that the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations are in implementation of an imperialist-Zionist plot aimed at realizing Israel's expansionist designs, liquidating the Palestinian cause, bringing the entire area of the Middle East under the influence of U.S. imperialism, and using the rulers of Egypt and Israel to combat the Arab liberation movement, thus alienating stability in the area and threatening peace in the Middle East and the world.

The two sides also agreed that these negotiations aim at torpedoing the Geneva conference, which the international community regards as the suitable means for reaching a just and firm peace in the area. They also aim at alienating the parties directly concerned in the issue, particularly the PLO--the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The two agreed that the Egyptian regime's policy constitutes a blow to the anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist Arab solidarity. This policy aims at destroying Arab solidarity and dividing the Arabs, as well as at isolating the Arabs from their friends in the world, particularly the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. They expressed their appreciation with the results of the steadfastness and confrontation summit conference and the Arab popular conference which were recently held in Tripoli. They emphasized the need to support the front of steadfastness and confrontation, which is a suitable reply to the Egyptian regime's capitulatory course. They also stressed the importance of Arab solidarity in the struggle to regain the usurped Arab rights and establish the edifice of a just peace in the area and the world on solid grounds.

The sides underlined the importance of activating the world campaign to condemn As-Sadat's capitulatory policy and express solidarity with the front of steadfastness and confrontation against the dangers threatening the area.

The Syrian side expressed great appreciation for the stands adopted by the Hungarian peace council, people and government and the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party [MSZMP] which support the Arab people and their liberation movement in its struggle to liberate the occupied Arab territories, guarantee the national rights of the Palestinian people and continue the march on the road of progressive and independent development and Arab unity.

The Hungarian Peace Council expressed great appreciation for the stands adopted by the Syrian party, people, government and national front under the leadership of the Ba'th Party and its secretary general, Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, president of the republic as well as for their struggle against the plots being hatched by imperialism and Zionism.

The members of the Hungarian delegation also expressed their strong condemnation of the barbaric crimes being perpetrated by the Zionist forces in the occupied Arab territories. The liberated city of Al-Qunaytirah is living evidence of this barbarism.

The two delegations condemned the Egyptian regime's decision to dissolve the National Council of the Peace Partisans Movement in Egypt--an arbitrary decision which violates the interests of the Arab liberation movement and those of the Egyptian people. They asked for the abrogation of this unjust decision and expressed solidarity with the peace partisans movement in Egypt, the Egyptian people and their patriotic and progressive forces which are struggling against As-Sadat's capitulatory policy, which is under the domination of imperialist and Zionist interests.

The two delegations expressed satisfaction with the relations of friendship and cooperation existing between the two countries. They agreed on the importance of strengthening the bonds of cooperation and friendship between the two peace councils in the two friendly countries.

The Hungarian Peace Council extended an invitation to a delegation from the National Council of the Peace Partisans Movement in Syria. The Syrian delegation expressed thanks and welcome for this invitation which will be made later.

During its stay in Syria, the delegation met with Comrade Muhammad Jabir Bajbuj, Ba'th Party assistant regional secretary and chairman of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee ; Comrade Mahmud al-Ayyubi, deputy charman of the national progressive front; several members of the front's central command; Comrade Dr Fawwaz Sayyagh, chairman of the Foreign Relations Office in the Ba'th Party National Command; Khalid al-Fahum, president of the Palestine National Council [PNC] and Muhsin Abu Mayzar, member of the PLO Executive Committee, official spokesman of the PLO and head of the national and pan-Arab relations department.

LIBYA

OFFICIAL WELCOMES VISITING SOVIET FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION

LD261356Y Tripoli JANA in English 0938 GMT 26 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, January 25, JANA--Head of the Foreign Liaison Bureau of the General People's Congress Ahmad ash-Shahati yesterday welcomed the visiting Soviet delegation of the Libyan-Soviet Friendship Society.

He lauded the relations between the two countries as well as the stands of the First of September Revolution towards national and international issues.

The vice president of the Libyan-Soviet Friendship Society, in reply to Ash-Shahati's address, praised the role of the First of September Revolution regarding important and dangerous international issues and its stands against the colonialist-Zionist plans.

A member of the society, Omar Hamdi, also spoke about its activities while the Soviet ambassador to the Jamahiriyah lauded the solidarity between the Jamahiriyah and Soviet people against international neo-colonialism.

He expressed pleasure at the growing relations between the people of the Soviet Union and the Arab nation in general and those of the Jamahiriyah in particular.

MAURITANIA

PRESIDENT OULD DADDAH RESHUFFLES CABINET

TA271035Y Paris AFP in English 0950 GMT 27 Jan 78 TA

[Text] Nouakchott, Jan. 27 (AFP)--President Moktar Ould Daddah reshuffled his government late yesterday and cut the number of ministers from 17 to 13, official sources said here.

The four ministers to lose their jobs were Defense Minister Col. Mbarek Ould Bouna Moktar, Mohammed el Hafed Ould Enahoui (information), Dr Moulaye Abdel Moumine (health), and Cheikh Kane Saad Bouh (justice).

Former Industry, Trade and Transport Minister Mohameden Ould Babbah took over the defense portfolio.

Former Basic Education Minister Diop Mamadou Amadou took over a new portfolio, administrative reform, associated with labour, health and social affairs. Foreign Minister Hamdi Ould Mouknass retained his portfolio.

The following is a complete list of ministers:

Party affairs	Abdallahi Ould Boye
Foreign affairs	Hamdi Ould Mouknass
Defense	Mohameden Ould Babbah
Islamic affairs and justice	Moujtaba Ould Mohamed Vall
Interior	Sakho Mamadou
Planning and mines	Baro Abdoulaye
Finance and trade	Ba Ibrahima
Industry, fishing and marine	Abdallahi Ould Ismail
Rural development	Cheikh Sidi Ould Abdallahi
Equipment and transport	Ahmed Ould Sidi Baba
Administrative Reform	Diop Mamadou Amadou
Culture and information	Sidi Ahmed Ould Dey

PPM APPEALS TO OAU TO END ALGERIAN HOSTILITY

PA271205Y Paris AFP in French 1147 GMT 26 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Nouakchott, 26 Jan (AFP)--The Mauritanian People's Party [PPM] extraordinary congress which met Wednesday in Nouakchott hopes the Organization of African Unity [OAU] will decide to put an end to "Algerian aggression" against Mauritania and obtain the release of "Mauritanian citizens kidnaped and taken as hostages by the Algerian authorities."

In a resolution the congress said that the organization "will open the way to a normalization of the situation in the subregion." "The Mauritanian people will do everything possible to obtain peace, understanding and friendly relations," the resolution said.

The congress "likewise called the attention of the Arab League states, the OAU, the nonalined movement and other countries to the right of Mauritanian people to live in dignity within their borders."

Another resolution approved by the congress emphasizes the approval, "without reservations," by party members of political, economic and administrative measures announced by President Moktar Ould Daddah in his opening speech.

POLISARIO GUERRILLAS ATTACK FORTIFIED POST

PA241303Y Paris AFP in English 0700 GMT 24 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Nouakchott, Mauritania, Jan 24 (AFP)--POLISARIO guerrillas in a mobile column have attacked a Mauritanian fortified post at Inal, 250 kms (170 miles) northeast of the port of Nouadhibou. The post guards the vital railway linking Nouadhibou to the iron ore mining centre of Zouirat. Official sources, announcing the attack, said there were no Mauritanian casualties.

The attack was launched just after dusk fell at 7:30 pm and lasted for an hour. When the guerrillas left, they were chased by Mauritanian troops.

The POLISARIO guerrillas are fighting for the independence of Western Sahara, a former Spanish colony partitioned by Mauritania and Morocco when Spain quit shortly after the death of Franco.

The guerrillas launched a similar attack on January 12 against Choum, slightly to the east of Inal. In both cases they fired mortars and heavy machine guns just as night fell, and the withdrew to the southern Sahara without suffering any losses.

MOROCCO

KING HASSAN GRANTS INTERVIEW TO AL-JUMHURIYAH

NC252300Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1708 GMT 25 Jan 78 NC

[Excerpts] Rabat, 25 January--King Hassan II of Morocco has emphasized the the struggle for the recovery of the occupied Arab territories and the regaining of the Palestinian people's rights does not take just one form but goes through many forms that change according to the changing circumstances and to different equations, calculations and changes of power.

King Hassan explained that if the regaining of rights can be achieved through negotiations, then it is an utmost duty to take that path to spare bloodshed and lives and funds, because negotiations do not mean renunciation of the Arab rights but their aim is to convince and be convinced.

Referring to President Anwar as-Sadat's initiative for the establishment of peace in the Middle East, King Hassan said: I have not believed for a single moment that President as-Sadat could possibly depart from the Rabat summit resolutions and this is why I supported him right away, even without him informing us of his decisions and steps. The sequence of events has confirmed my view.

In an interview his majesty granted to the newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH to be published tomorrow, the Moroccan king said that the result reached by the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations confirms that As-Sadat has not compromised a single article of the Rabat conference resolutions. He said that if As-Sadat wanted to solve the Egyptian-Israeli problem and conclude a separate peace, the negotiations would not have faltered. However, the negotiations did falter over the Palestinian issue.

King Hassan expressed the hope that the suspension of the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations will be an opportunity for uniting the Arab ranks and supporting Egypt during the current phase when the situation appears to be clear, without any ambiguity. The question is whether Israel wants peace, and if so it should express its desire, or if it chooses war, then it and all those concerned must think of the consequences and adopt the necessary measures.

Regarding the importance of convening an Arab summit conference at present, King Hassan II said: I believe that a general summit conference would be premature. It would be better for us to begin with a meeting of the frontline states with the PLO. The situation is delicate and we must not lose time. However, if rapid agreement is reached for convening a comprehensive summit conference, that would be all right.

Replying to a question on President Anwar as-Sadat's resignation, King Hassan said: Why should he resign? We have said that we would ask for the resignation of President as-Sadat if he ratified a peace not approved by the Egyptian parliament, if he committed his country to a written agreement that would be tantamount to a law on which the relations between Egypt and Israel would be based and which did not agree with the will of his people or which (?violated) what the Arabs had unanimously agreed upon. It is ridiculous for us to be carried away by the idea of the president's resignation and to continue to talk about it.

Regarding Moroccan-Soviet relations following the Soviet-Algerian statement which referred to the right of self-determination in solving disputes in North Africa, King Hassan said: We do not attach much importance to this matter. The Soviets, as we know, are captives of their political dictionary. There are certain terminologies which even the Soviet leader is not allowed to use. There are other expressions that must be used on every occasion including that of self-determination, which to the Soviets is like "in the name of God" is to the Moslems. We are concerned with the Palestinians' self-determination and do not allow such formalities to change our policy. Our relationship with the Soviet Union is good and we will conclude a phosphate agreement with them soon--an agreement which is now labelled the agreement of the century. It will be for 30 years under which the Soviet Union will import 10 million tons of phosphate a year and will also participate in developing the mines of [word indistinct].

Further Details

LD262100Y Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1708 GMT 25 Jan 78 LD

[Excerpts] Regarding the Libyan-Algerian alliance, his majesty said: This is a temporary alliance being set up for certain circumstances and tactical purposes. Al-Qadhdhafi will not forget the names Boumediene has called him, nor will he forget how Boumediene prevented Libyan-Tunisian unity. Each has his own plans, his political thinking and system.

"Replying to a question about Houari Boumediene's undertaking regarding the nonexistence of any Algerian claim on Saharan territory, his majesty said: It is only decency and good manners that prevent me from using the appropriate words. But I can say that past and present events speak for themselves. What is taking place contradicts Boumediene's undertakings.

It is noteworthy that last week the Moroccan Government sent a message to President of Gabon Omar Bongo, the current chairman of the OAU. In this letter the Moroccan Government referred to the fact that there had been aggression against Moroccan territories. The message states that consequently the Algerian Government is responsible for all operations that begin from its territory and that those who carry out the aggression go back to this territory to seek refuge. The message also demanded that the OAU intervene to return those who have been abducted and are detained in Algerian cities. M'hamed Boucetta, minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, said that Morocco had 120 prisoners who were arrested inside Moroccan territory and who have made statements about their units in the Algerian Army and also their numbers.

In this respect his majesty said: We offered to release these soldiers and to return them to Algeria; but they asked to remain in a Moroccan prison. We regarded this attack on Moroccan territory as a new stage in tension which was linked with President Boumediene's tour in the Arab east and the Soviet Union, particularly since the recent measures in the Sahara and Mauritania led to the liquidation of POLISARIO activity in the Saharan region to the extent that the Moroccan Government insisted that the program of a visit of a Spanish delegation, which included 70 journalists, should include a tour to the town of El Aaiun and the Moroccan Sahara, within their working and touring visits.

Replying to a question regarding the French presence in Mauritania, his majesty said: Mauritania alone has the right to evaluate the French presence on its territory and the dimensions of this presence. Mauritania alone can define the number, quantity and form of this presence.

Regarding the likelihood of establishing Moroccan-Mauritanian unity, his majesty said: Our relations with Mauritania are close; we have economic and military agreements; we have a joint defense alliance; we will always continue, as in the past, to honor our commitments toward friendly countries.

Referring to the assistance of arms and men Morocco gave during the 1973 war, his majesty said that the rearming of the Moroccan Army has no connection with the Sahara problem. He added: We left all our weapons at that time to our brothers; we deemed it better to renew our arms in the light of the October war and in the light of the advancement made in weapons. His majesty finally explained that some Arab countries helped Morocco to replace the weapons which the Moroccan Army gave as assistance in the 1973 October war.

INFORMATION MINISTER ON ALGERIAN BORDER ABDUCTIONS

LD271111Y Casablanca LE MATIN in French 18 Jan 78 pp 1, 5 LD

[Unattributed report]

[Text] During a recent interview in Rabat with the foreign press, Information Minister Mohamed Larsi Khattabi commented on the recent incidents which have taken place inside Moroccan borders and in which innocent families were hurt.

"Very serious incidents have occurred over the past week on the Algerian-Moroccan frontiers," the minister said. During these incidents Moroccan citizens were abducted by Algerian forces.

"This act of terrorism," he went on, "was carried out inside Moroccan borders (in the Tantan Province), and Moroccan citizens going about their normal business lost their lives."

Mr Khattabi considers that "this act of aggression is one more link in the chain of terrorist acts and abductions which citizens of many other countries have also suffered, for example, Senegalese, Spanish and French citizens." This is a reference to the hostages seized in Mauritania and imprisoned in Algeria and the minister pointed out that Algeria "uses hustages in bargaining and everyone is aware of the aim behind these moves." The minister stated in this context that "the first step taken by his majesty's government, which is fully aware of its responsibilities, was to inform international and regional organizations of these incidents and to protest to Algeria, the instigator and author of these criminal acts."

Mr Khattabi went on to say: "Morocco has asked these organizations to take steps to stop Algerian aggression, to persuade the Algerian officials to modify their policy and their behavior in international relations and to return the Moroccan hostages to their country and their families."

The minister pointed out that "this new terrorist operation has occurred at a time when Algeria claims to be trying to summon an extraordinary OAU summit meeting to examine the question of restored Saharan territory.

"Trying to open dialog via the OAU while at the same time resorting to methods aimed at creating disturbance and making dialog difficult, if not impossible, is a blatant contradiction in Algeria's behavior."

The minister pointed out that "these incidents have taken place at a time when President Boumediene is touring the Middle East with the professed aim of trying to unify Arab ranks. However," Mr Khattabi points out, "Arab ranks cannot be united by threatening the lives of innocent victims and violating the frontiers of one's Maghreb neighbors."

He went on to ask whether Boumediene's official Algeria is a truly sovereign state effectively controlling all its national territory and hence responsible for any derogation of rights committed by persons living in Algeria, whether Algerian or not.

The Moroccan minister thinks that "if this is the case, Algeria should insure that this right is respected in accordance with recognized international customs and traditions.

"Unfortunately we find that the contrary is true when we see armed elements coming from Algerian territory to commit acts of aggression against the land, citizens and civilian enterprises of another country

"One wonders whether Boumediene's Algerian regime has lost the reins of power and is no longer able to control what happens on its territory," Mr Khattabi said before going on to conclude: "In either case international and regional organizations should assume their responsibilities to insure that Algerian territory is no longer a base for actions and incidents which contravene the principles governing international relations--acts which aim to bring disorder to peace-loving peoples who want stability at a time when trouble spots are spreading throughout the world."

Asked to which international and regional organizations Morocco has appealed, the minister stated that these were the United Nations, the OAU and the Arab League, and specified that messages on this subject had been sent to UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, Gabon President Hadj Omar Bongo, the current president of the OAU, and Arab League Secretary General Mahmud Riyad.

He stated that Morocco does not intend appealing to the Security Council at the moment.

Moreover, the minister indicated that Morocco and Mauritania have accepted President Bongo's proposal for an extraordinary summit meeting at Libreville.

Referring to the events of 11 January, the minister explained that three people were killed and seven abducted, including a 7-year-old child and a woman. He confirmed that this is the first Algerian infiltration into the region in 4 months.

When questioned about the agenda of the extraordinary summit meeting, the information minister said: "As far as we are concerned, the most important thing is to examine the question of the imprisonment of Moroccan citizens in Algeria, to stop Algerian aggression and finally to find a permanent solution to the conflict which Algeria has artifically created in this region."

TUNISIA

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON UNION UNREST, DEMONSTRATIONS

Destourian Party Statement

LD252102Y Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 25 Jan 78 LD

[Text] The Political Bureau of the Destourian Socialist Party met this evening, under Hedi Nouira, secretary general of the party and prime minister, and issued the following statement:

The Political Bureau expresses regret at developments that it has always feared and cautions against further movement in this direction in view of the fact that the present leadership of the Tunisian General Union of Labor [UGTT] has chosen the course of confrontation to convince the union of the need to consider the interests of the country and spare it the danger of conflict and struggle, and in spite of the attempts by many citizens who intervened with the first official of the union to avoid the call for a general strike and to draw attention to the serious consequences of such an action.

No one doubts that the general strike in all sectors has political meaning and objectives which are far removed from the interest of workers and that the harm that it may cause the country is very serious. The strike hinders economic growth, threatens social stability and provides a wide scope for the spreading of chaos. This is indeed what happened yesterday and today in certain streets in the capital where acts of sabotage and looting took place directed at citizens' stores and offices and certain national establishments.

The Political Bureau, in this dangerous circumstance, calls on all citizens to adhere to what the national duty dictates to them: the need to protect their country and nation from the dangers of intrigues and plots and stand united before those who call for sabotage. The Political Bureau also urges all citizens, especially the workers, to be vigilant and work with all their strength and belief to abort this plan as an act of mercy toward their country and protect it from the harmful consequences. It is the duty of all citizens today to reject the call for strike and work to prove the maturity, awareness and the deep sense of responsibility of this people.

The Political Bureau endorses the measures taken by the government to secure the right of citizens, protect their gains and guarantee the freedom of [word indistinct]. Let us all fear God and let us be the best people to order others to do good and forbid the doing of evil.

The prime minister recalls that the recent strikes have begun to take a special nature which exceed the mere defense of trade unionist interests, or which ostensibly appear to have something to do with this defense. These strikes have gone beyond certain situations or circumstances and have begun to acquire the nature of encompassing a certain sector or the nature of a solidarity action, and thus, have become ideological strikes of the well-known kind which are used for nonunionist and illegal objectives. In this way these strikes have lost their legitimate nature and have become merely an action which is in contradiction with the public interest and [words indistinct] law.

Participation in such actions [words indistinct] expose their perpetrators to the measures included in the basic laws of the security aides, general organizations, general institutions of an administrative nature--Chapter 55 of Law No 12 of (?1968) dated 6 June [words indistinct[--and companies in which the state has a share in their capital--Chapter 7 of Law No 18 dated 3 June 1962.

It is worth mentioning that the criminal code deals with [words indistinct]. the legal punishments that can be applied to anyone who participates in a joint action aimed at obstructing public interests--in other words, harming the public interest.

Report on Violence

LD261258Y Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1204 GMT 26 Jan 78 LD

[Excerpt] Since the Tunisian people, who sense the depth of responsibility, have foiled the dreams of the advocates of disorder, groups of subversives have resorted to gathering around in certain squares and streets of Tunis and to wrecking the fronts of business and parked vehicles. They pulled down traffic lights and stoned police from the roofs of houses. This was a continuation of the hooligan and subversive acts and the looting and plunder which occured last night in many quarters of the capital. All these brutal acts seek to spread terror among the population and to disrupt work. This brutality is nothing but a means to compel the free citizens to go on strike and to force shops to close.

More on UGTT Demonstration

LD251422Y Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 25 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Following a call launched by the Tunisian General Union of Labor [UGTT] for workers to attend a press conference due to be held by Mr Otto Kersten, secretary general of the ICFTU, some 350 people gathered at 1500 yesterday.

This number then rose to about 2,000, which led to the overcrowding of the Mohamed Ali Square: [where the headquarters of the UGTT is located] and neighboring streets like Annaba Street, Souk Ahras Street and Mongi Slim Street.

Consequently, traffic became congested and it proved necessary to channel it through Malta Srira Street to insure that the press conference could be held.

After the address of Mr Otto Kersten, Mr Habib Achour delivered an inflamatory speech which aroused the audience; people began shouting, calling for a march and chanting various slogans.

The crowd then split into two groups: The first one headed toward Mongi Slim Street; calm at the outset, the mood of the march soon became agitated and angry. The second group went toward Annaba Street and was very tense and angry right from the outset. Most people in this group were carrying clubs and stones they had picked up earlier from the headquarters of the UGTT. They began stoning passers-by and shopwindows. Security units then had to move in; they confronted demonstrators to disperse them.

However, a considerable number of demonstrators infiltrated into other streets, forming groups chanting antiregime slogans and creating a wave of agitation. They stoned passersby and security officers and smashed shopwindows in Al-Djazira Street, including that of the branch of the Union Internationale des Banques. Demonstrators also tried to smash the doors of the bank branch.

In Kasba Street demonstrators tried to set stores on fire. In Bab Souika area the crowd damaged a private car and a police automobile. Not content with these destructive acts, demonstrators went further: Some of them climbed on to roofs in France Street and Annaba Street. Demonstrators used a number of various unidentified tear gas canisters.

Security units managed to confront these smalltime rebels [mutanatti'in] and restored peace, after having arrested some of them it is noteworthy that the identification signs on some of the projectiles used were completely obliterated, which once more confirms the deliberate nature of all these acts.

Tanks Intervene in Tunis

LD261858Y Paris Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 26 Jan 78 LD

[Excerpt] There is an explosive situation in Tunisia. The 24-hour general strike called by the single trade union has turned into a riot. Thousands of demonstrators coming from the industrial zone marched to the center of Tunis. They sacked everything in their path and called for the resignation of Prime Minister Nouira. The police and the army opened fire, in certain districts tanks even intervened and bursts of automatic fire have been heard. Apparently there are already three dead and many injured. Radio Tunis is advising people not to go out, issuing repeated calls for blood donors. A state of emergency has just been proclaimed.

State of Emergency

LD262022Y Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Compatriots, here is an important statement:

For several days, the capital has been living through disturbances and a wave of anarchy which have gradually become more serious and more violent day by day. These disturbances were not based on any specific trade unionist demands or any legitimate purposes. They went beyond all this and took the form of violence which turned into a direct confrontation and clashes with the authorities and a rebellion against them.

Thus security was endangered and individuals were assaulted and so were private and public institutions. The saboteurs went to the extent of opening fire. A number of members of the security forces and the attackers were wounded and some were killed.

In the face of this extremely dangerous situation and extremely critical conditions and in view of the need for the restoration of security and the protection of law, placing it above everything else, a state of emergency has been proclaimed throughout the Tunisian Republic in accordance with a presidential decree in accordance with the constitutional powers vested in the president by Chapter 46 of the Constitution.

Another decree was issued by the president of the republic today banning demonstrations and imposing a curfew in the Tunisian capital and its suburbs. The decree was issued in accordance with Law No 4 of 1969, dated 24 January 1969, concerning public assemblies, processions, demonstrations, parades and gatherings.

In view of this, the following have been decided:

1. The assembly of more than 3 people in public roads and squares is prohibited;

2. The curfew shall be imposed from 1800 to 0500 on all persons and vehicles until further notice;

3. Anyone who violates these measures shall be liable to the most severe penalties provided by law and even to the point of allowing security officers to fire at any suspicious person who fails to stop when ordered or who tries to run away--leaving no way to force him to stop. This is in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 20 of the above law No 4 for 1969--dated 24 January 1969.

For today only, the curfew will come into force at 2000.

ATHERTON, BEGIN, DAYAN COMMENT ON MEETING

TA261254Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 26 Jan 78 TA

[Text] Assistant U.S. Secretary of State Alfred Atherton said today that progress was being made toward getting the stalled Middle East peace talks started again. Speaking to newsmen outside the prime minister's office, he would not be specific about when they would be resumed. [begin recording]

[Atherton] We had very good talks today. This was in the nature of continuing the contacts that I have been having since I came to the Middle East. We discussed questions related to the resumption of the peace process, the forthcoming resumption of the Military Committee that should finally be arranged and also my own role in trying to be helpful between the two governments with regard to the matters that were under discussion earlier in the Political Committee.

[Question from unidentified correspondent] Have you some sort of agreement on the declaration of principles [words indistinct]?

[Atherton] Well, I think I have a very good understanding of what the Israeli views are. I will obviously have to convey this to the authorities in Cairo and see what their position is.

[Unidentified correspondent] When are you intending to go to Cairo?

[Atherton] I anticipate that I will go to Cairo probably early next week for a continuation of this process.

[Unidentified correspondent] Mr Atherton, President as-Sadat said that progress is being made or he intimated such. Do you find evidence of that here?

[Atherton] Yes, I think so. I think that as a result of these talks we have helped move matters forward. [end recording]

After the talks Prime Minister Menahem Begin made this statement: [begin recording]

[Begin] We had a long talk with the assistant secretary, Mr Atherton, and the American ambassador, Mr Sam Lewis. We dealt with the continuation of the peace making process. I cannot say for sure because its up to the government to take the decision, but today perhaps I can assume that if nothing special happens then there is a possibility that the government at its weekly session next Sunday will decide to send the defense minister and his advisers to Cairo. Again, I have to repeat that it depends on the decision by the cabinet, and we talked with Mr Atherton and the ambassador about the problems concerning this issue, and, secondly, we also raised the question of supply of American arms to countries in the Middle East.

[Unidentified correspondent] Senator Church has proposed an arms freeze to the Middle East, including Israel....

[Begin, interrupting] I hope that our dear friend Senator Church will not promote this proposal. Israel has got a commitment from the United States, already a long-standing commitment about supply of planes, and there is no doubt whatsoever in our mind that that commitment will be fulfilled. [end recording]

Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan is hopeful that Egypt and Israel will reach agreement on a declaration of principles, but he is not at all certain that Egypt is bound to continue on the road to peace. The Foreign minister also thinks that at its next session the Israeli Government will agree to continue the military talks in Cairo. If Egypt did not agree to resume direct political talks then there would be indirect talks. [begin recording]

[Dayan] I am hopeful that we can reach--I believe we can reach--and this is mainly due to the American contribution--an agreement about the principles of the treaties that would be acceptable by the Egyptians and ourselves. We have been doing quite a progress and unless the Egyptians try to artificially, really, delay or to avoid, I think that we are about--this is within reach, really that we can get an agreement. As I said, mainly due to the American contribution. Now whether that would be sufficient for King Husayn to join the talks or not, I can't say either way. At the beginning, when we started the talks with the Egyptians, they said that if we reach an agreement about the principle then they are sure that Husayn will join us. Whether this is true or not, I can't say. We don't have any direct contact with Husayn, but we got also such encouragement through the American representatives. They thought, too, that if we reach an agreement with the Egyptians about the principles, then Husayn might join, mainly due and thanks to the American contribution that they would convince him to join the talks. [end recording]

PROGRESS REPORTED IN GEN TAMIR'S TALKS IN CAIRO

TA261522Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 26 Jan 78 TA

[Text] Maj Gen Avraham Tamir, IDF representative to the Military Committee deliberations, will leave Egypt in an hour. He will arrive in Jerusalem for consultations in prepartion for the cabinet meeting on Sunday, a meeting in which it will be decided whether to resume the Military Committee deliberations.

Our correspondent in Cairo Roni Dani'el reports that much progress has been made recently in the discussions between Major General Tamir and Egyptian Gen Taha al-Majdub. Our correspondant says that it is expected in Cairo that the talks will be resumed on Sunday or on Monday, after the meeting of the Israeli Government. Our correspondent from Cairo also reports that today Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil conferred with many of the ambassadors in Cairo and explained to them Egypt's position at this stage of the negotiations with Israel.

Tamir Returns to Jerusalem

TA262007 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 26 Jan 78 TA

[Text] Maj Gen Avraham Tamir, the chief of the planning branch in the defense system, returned home from Cairo this evening and conferred with Defense Minister Weizman. Major General Tamir did not say a thing upon landing at LOD airport. The consultations he is holding are in preparation for the resumption of the military committee talks in Cairo next week.

DAYAN COMMENTS ON POSSIBLE POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

TA261716Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 26 Jan 78 TA

[Text] I believe that thanks to U.S. mediation there are chances that we will reach a joint declaration of principles with the Egyptians unless the Egyptians want artificially to prevent such an agreement. This was said by Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan today in a lecture before students at Bar-Ilan University. Our correspondent Raz Livnat reports on the remarks of the foreign minister. [begin recording]

[Livnat] In reply to a student's question the foreign minister said that everyone hopes that on Sunday the government will endorse the departure of the defense minister for the Military Committee in Cairo despite the departure of the Egyptian delegation from Jerusalem in the middle of the political talks, the Egyptian statements and the Egyptian press, which is occupied with slander. Dayan was asked whether he believes that despite the hardships Israel and Egypt will reach a joint declaration of principles that will be followed by Husayn's participation in the peace talks.

[Dayan] I believe that thanks to the U.S. mediation or really contribution, there are chances that we will reach a joint declaration of principles with Egyptians unless the Egyptians want artificially to prevent such an agreement. In the past the Egyptians, in addition to the Americans, have told us that they believe Husayn will join the talks if we indeed reach such an agreement. We have no direct contact with Husayn. We can only rely on what we hear. Therefore, I cannot say for sure whether Husayn will join or not if an agreement is indeed reached on the principles of a peace agreement.

[Livnat] The foreign minister was asked whether the report published in LE FIGARO 1969 that he wanted to meet with Yasir 'Arafat is true and, if so, why does he object to meeting him now.

[Dayan] This is true. In 1969 Yasir 'Arafat was in Jordan and was one of the leaders of the terrorist gangs. I wanted very much to meet with each of the terrorist leaders. I did meet with many of them--those who were held in captivity here. [laughter] I was ready to talk with him. I wanted to talk with him. I did not want to talk with him about the establishment of a Palestinian state nor about a peace settlement. I wanted to hear from a terrorist leader, from Yasir 'Arafat, about his motivation: what they were doing, why they were doing what they were doing, if it might be stopped. If terrorism could be stopped. Negotiations are conducted about a peace settlement. The question regarding the PLO is whether we view them as the representative of the Palestinian Arabs and want to discuss the establishment of a Palestinian state with them. We do not want to discuss the establishment of Palestinian state with anyone, either with them or anyone else. [end recording]

Further Details on Comments

TA262033Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 26 Jan 78 TA

[Text] Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan said that thanks to the U.S. contribution there are reasonable chances today to reach a joint Israeli-Egyptian declaration of principles. Dayan said that both the Americans and Egyptians have in the past claimed that they believe that Jordan will join the negotiations if Egypt and Israel reach a joint tion of intent on the Palestinian issue. The foreign minister spoke at Bar-Ilan University today. An additional report on his remarks is brought by our correspondent Elimelekh Ram. [begin videotape]

[Ram] As-Sadat's initiative, according to Dayan, stemmed from the need to get out of the war cycle with Israel due to Egypt's difficult Economic situation, the poor condition of the Egyptian Army and the conclusion that the rejectionist front did not want a settlement with Israel. These are the factors that brought As-Sadat to Jerusalem. However, will Egypt continue at this stage to follow the method of seeking negotiations.

[Dayan] Egypt also has to consider the Palestinian issue in its negotiations with Israel. If it finds such a breakthrough on this matter as to have the representatives of the Palestinians and the Jordanian Government join them in what is generally called the Cairo conference, Egypt will not be isolated and will be together with them.

[Ram] Without Jordan, Dayan believes, As-Sadat will not be able to reach an agreement. In reply to another question, the foreign minister gave the assessment that it is possible to settle the issues of the Rafah approaches, Sharm Ash-Shaykh and the demilitarization of Sinai with the Egyptians without evacuating settlements. A U.S. correspondent present here asked about the chances of reaching a joint declaration of intent and if this is achieved will this bring Jordan to the negotiating table?

[Dayan, in English] We got also such encouragement through the U.S. representative that they thought, too, that if we reach an agreement with the Egyptians about the principles then Husayn might join, maybe too late and thanks to the U.S. contribution that they would convince him to join the talks. [end videotape]

KNESSET COMMITTEE HEAD CRITICAL OF U.S. ROLE

TA2517147 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 25 Jan 78 TA

[From the Afternoon Newsreel]

[Text] The head of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, MK Moshe Arens, has expressed his opinion that U.S. involvement in the negotiations between Israel and Egypt can only put pressure on Israel and, therefore, such involvement should be rejected. Our correspondent 'Oded Shahar reports on these remarks made by the head of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee at a meeting with students at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. [begin recording]

[Shahar] The status of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, the negotiations with Egypt and the U.S. role, these are the main problems Professor Arens was asked about. Referring to the fact that the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee received a report about the government's plan only after the plan had been presented to President Carter, MK Arens remarked that in his opinion the prime minister wanted to adopt shock tactics, tactics of rapid activity accompanied with the hope for a quick termination of the negotiations. However, the negotiations are being drawn out, without the Egyptians' being ready to propose anything to date.

[Arens] From my point of view, Egypt has in fact given nothing. President as-Sadat, during his visit in Jerusalem 2 months ago declared and repeated the well-known positions of the Arab world that Israel must withdraw to the 1967 borders and that a Palestinian state must be established. Those among us who thought that these were only opening positions and declarations have been disappointed, since over 2 months have elapsed. When Foreign Minister Kamil arrived at the airport about 10 days ago he in fact repeated the same positions. This is the Egyptian position to date: a return to the 1967 borders and the establishment of a Palestinian state. From my point of view, then, from an Israeli point of view, it seems to me that nothing has been offered in return at this stage, and what is worse, there is no progress.

[Shahar] MK Arens also briefly reacted to Egypt's request for U.S. aid, claiming that this aid is dangerous for Israel and the government should not agree to it despite the fact that there is a tendency in the government occasionally to agree to U.S. aid to Arab countries regarding several military items.

On the issue of U.S. involvement in the negotiations, Professor Arens said that the U.S. aim is to gain influence in the Arab world, an aim which it can reach by becoming a mediating element. This must not happen for several reasons: A) First, it is pointless to return to indirect negotiations now after the parties have met directly already; B) the possibility of U.S. pressure.

[Arens] I think that U.S. involvement in the negotiations will finally inevitably lead to pressure on us even if the intentions are good and pure at the beginning and are only aimed at finding this or that wording that has not been thought of by us or the Egyptians. Therefore, in my opinion, our Foreign Ministry is making a mistake here if this is indeed its intention; that is, if it intends to try to persuade or push the Americans into involvement in the negotiations. [end recording]

YADIN EXPECTS 'SUBSTANTIAL NEGOTIATIONS' TO START

LD261504Y London BBC Domestic Television Service in English 1245 GMT 26 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Israel's deputy prime minister, Professor Yadin, has arrived in London for talks with the foreign secretary. He will give Dr Owen Israel's assessment of peace prospects with the Jerusalem negotiations still suspended. Larry Harris asked Mr Yadin when he thought substantive negotiations would resume. [begin videotape]

[Yadin] It seems at the moment, barring some unforeseen event, that the military negotiations--well, actually it is not military negotiations, it is on the level of ministers of defense--might resume early next week. And I think if these would go on well, then the other negotiations will proceed too--prime ministers or presidents levels. I do not think there is an immediate plan now, but I think substantial negotiations will actually start next week.

[Question] In this situation--as complex and as important as this one--what can nations other than those directly involved and the United States, nations like Britain, what can they do to help?

[Answer] Well, first of all, advice is always welcome. But I think that at the present moment--I think not to try to help too much is also, I think, very helpful. I think after we are really talking with each other for the first time in direct negotiations, I think advice is very welcome, and some contacts they get and bring to us after meeting the Egyptians. But I think at the moment we and the Egyptians, with the help of the Americans, will try to do as much as we can. [end videotape]

EHRLICH NOT IN FAVOR OF FUNDS FOR RAFAH SETTLEMENTS

TA262051Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 26 Jan 78 TA

[Text] Finance Minister Simha Ehrlich said he will not endorse the expenditure of 1.5 billion Israeli pounds from next year's budget for settlement needs in the Rafah approaches. He will refer the request to the government so that it can specially endorse this financial outlay. Nevertheless, Mr Ehrlich told our correspondent Avi Angel that he has not yet received the letter of request from the Agriculture Ministry.

Our correspondent reports that discussions have already been held between the finance and agriculture ministers about the settlement in the Yamit region and that their last discussion was held on Tuesday this week.

In this discussion Agricultural Minister Sharon said that the expenditure for a single family in the region is 2.5 million Israeli pounds. Therefore, it is clear that the entire plan for the settlement of the 1,000 families will cost at least 2.5 billion Israeli pounds. It was also said in this discussion that the major problem is not finances but the shortage of water and that it is impossible to find even a single additional cubic meter of water in Israel for agricultural or other needs. It is noted in the Finance Ministry that practical discussions are going on these days about the cut of the defense budget by 1.5 billion Israeli pounds and additional cuts in all other ministries.

FUNDS ALLOCATED TO WEST BANK MUNICIPALITIES

TA261732Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 26 Jan 78 TA

[Text] In the last 3 months of the past year, the military authorities endorsed 5 million Israeli pounds in grants and loans to the [West Bank] municipalities for development plans. Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari reports that the plans in question are for street lighting, sewage systems, asphalting streets and roads and financing various procurements of equipment for the municipalities.

This does not pertain to the large municipalities that do not get loans from the military authorities because of a disagreement over the formulation of the loan contracts. So, for instance, the Hebron Municipality has not utilized a loan amounting to 650,000 Israeli pounds for the purchase of a fire engine, a sum which was recently endorsed for it. The aid for the villages was greater: 8 million Israeli pounds. The emphasis in the development of the villages is given to development of the power and water systems and the building of schools.

SAMARIA VILLAGE CONNECTED TO ISRAEL'S POWER GRID

TA261724Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 26 Jan 78 TA

[Text] Despite the pressures of the Jordanian Government, the village of (Dayr ar-Ruson) in Samaria has decided to be connected with the national electricity network. The work of connecting the village to the power grid has already begun. Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari reports that when it was learned in Amman that the village decided to obtain electricity from Israel, heavy pressures were exerted on it in order to make it retract its decision and buy a generator with the financial assistance of Amman. Against the background of these pressures the village council resigned a few months ago, but finally the village decided in favor of the connection to the electricity network and not to purchase a generator and set up its own electricity company.

WEST BANK WORKERS TO GET COST-OF-LIVING INCREASE

TA261726Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 26 Jan 78 TA

[Text] As of next month the state workers in Judaea and Samaria will receive a cost-of-living increment amounting to about 12 percent like their colleagues in Israel. As is customary, the municipalities will also pay their employees the cost-of-living increase paid by the military authorities.

CYPRIOT JOURNALIST ACCUSED OF ESPIONAGE INDICTED

TA261539Y Paris AFP in English 1405 GMT 26 Jan 78 TA

[Text] Jerusalem, Jan 26 (AFP)--Israel has accused a Cypriot journalist held on espionage charges with singling out objectives for Palestinian Liberation Organization attacks. The Foreign Ministry today made public key points of the indictment. The ministry spokesman said the indictment of Panayiotis Paskhalis, 38, who was arrested last week, was also being sent to the Cypriot Government at its request.

Mr Paskhalis was accused of travelling to Israel five times last year to pick up data and take pictures of possible terrorist objectives for the Palestine Liberation Organization. On his first visit in January 1977 the indictment said, he was to supply PLO representatives in Cyprus with Israeli statistics annuals, tourist literature and newspapers. Afterwards he took some 340 shots of installations ranging from movie theaters to supermarkets to railheads to supply depots, as well as of possible targets like beaches, streets and hotels. Israeli journalist Hans Lebracht, 62, arrested at the same time as Mr Paskhalis, was accused of aiding and abetting the information gethering.

MINISTER DISCLOSES PLAN FOR RAILWAY TO EGYPT

TA261820Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1800 GMT 26 Jan 78 TA

[Text] Finance Minister Simha Ehrlich has disclosed that if progress is made in the negotiations with Egypt, Israel has a detailed proposal to make regarding laying a railway from Ashood Port to Al-Qantarah that would serve both countries. According to the plan, the railway would be built in 20 months and would require an investment of $100 million. Ehrlich spoke in a closed meeting before 300 leaders of the bonds organization who are in Jerusalem now. The finance minister also said it is necessary to spend $30 million annually in each of the 5 coming years to save the interurban transportation between the three large cities in Israel.

BEGIN TO MAKE VISIT TO SWITZERLAND IN FEBRUARY

TA261149Y Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 26 Jan 78 p 3 TA

[By Sari Robert, correspondent in Geneva]

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin will go to Geneva in the beginning of February to attend an assembly of European contributors to the United Jewish Appeal. He will be hosted by Nissim Ga'on, president of the appeal in Switzerland. Invitations for participation at the assembly have been sent to about 1,000 Jewish community leaders in Europe who are among the major donors. At the assembly, the prime minister will also explain the political developments in the region.

SMALL CHARGE EXPLODES IN JERUSALEM: NO CASUALTIES

TA251925Y Jerusalem Domestic service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 25 Jan 78 TA

[Text] A small charge of explosives exploded in Jerusalem about three-quarters of an hour ago. Nobody was hurt and the damage caused is little. The charge exploded in an electricity box in the staircase hall on Shemu'el Hanavi Street.

BANGLADESH

PRC TRADE OFFICIAL CALLS ON GENERAL ZIA

BK251043Y Dacca Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 24 Jan 78 BK

[Text] The visiting Chinese vice minister for foreign trade, Mr Cheng To-pin, called on President Zia at Banga Bhavan today. He stayed with the president for some time.

Concludes Visit

BK251057Y Dacca Domestic Service in English 0835 GMT 25 Jan 78 BK

[Text] The Chinese vice minister for foreign trade, Mr Cheng To-pin, has said that trade relations between Bangladesh and China will develop further in the future. He was talking to newsmen at the Dacca airport this morning prior to his departure for home at the end of a 6-day visit to Bangladesh. He said he had sincere and friendly talks with leaders and officials in Dacca and found a common desire for the development of trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.

Mr Cheng To-pin said the target set for the exchange of goods under the second protocol is a big increase in the projected volume of trade turnover.

VICE PRESIDENT RETURNS FROM KUWAIT VISIT

BK251410Y Dacca Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 25 Jan 78 BK

[Text] The amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, has expressed his firm hope that the bonds of friendship between his country and Bangladesh will grow steadily with the passage of time. This was stated by the Bangladesh vice president, Mr Justice Abdus Sattar, on his return to Dacca today at the end of a 4-day official visit to Kuwait.

The vice president called on the amir yesterday to convey the personal condolences of President Zia, his government and the people of Bangladesh on the death of the former amir, Shaykh Sabah as-Salim as-Sabah.

Justice Sattar handed over to the amir a personal letter of President Zia. He felicitated Shaykh Jabir on his assumption of office as amir of Kuwait.

FORMER LEADERS REQUESTED TO DECLARE ASSETS

BK251056Y Dacca Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 24 Jan 78 BK

[Text] Post [liberation] Bangladesh public leaders have been asked to submit their property statements within 60 days from tomorrow to the coordination control cell for national security. A press note issued by the office of the chief martial law administrator today said the statement of property and assets will have to be submitted in a prescribed form. The forms will be available from the offices of the deputy commissioners and the Bangladesh missions abroad.

The press note says that persons failing to submit the statement shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term of up to 2 years. They will also be disqualified for elections or appointment for public office for a period of 5 to 7 years under the Public Leaders Improper Acquisition of Property Regulation, 1977.

The press note adds that in response to persistent public demand, the chief martial law administrator made the regulation to establish a mechanism to ascertain if any of the post Bangladesh public leaders has acquired property or assets by unlawful or improper means. They include ex-presidents, ex-vice presidents, prime ministers, ministers, ministers of state, deputy ministers, speakers, deputy speakers and members of parliament or the constituent assembly.

The government has sought the cooperation of the public in bringing to the notice of the cell and committee any incident of bribery, corruption, nepotism, willful maladministration, willful misappropriation or diversion of public money or abuse of official power or such position on the part of any of the public leaders or acquisition of property or assets by unlawful or improper means by any such person.

INDIA

IRISH PRESIDENT HILLERY, REDDY SPEAK AT BANQUET

BK261436Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 26 Jan 78 BK

[Text] The Irish president, Dr Patrick J. Hillery, has praised India's cultural heritage and said there are many similarities in the progress of the two countries to achieve freedom and contacts between the freedom fighters of the two countries. He was speaking at a banquet given in his honor by President Sanjeeva Reddy. The two presidents expressed the belief that Ireland's membership in the European Economic Community will help the relationship of the community with the nonalined countries.

In his speech, President Sanjeeva Reddy said that India is happy that Ireland has not only developed its economy by its association with the EEC, but has also sought to promote constructive policies in the councils of the community. Mr Reddy hoped that President Hillery's visit will strengthen the bonds of friendship between the people of the two countries.

Ih his reply President Hillery hoped that Ireland's membership in the European Community will give greater opportunities in the future for contact with India in creating a world free from fear, violence, oppression and regional conflicts.

VAJPAYEE HOLDS TALKS WITH IRISH FOREIGN MINISTER

BK251607Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 25 Jan 78 BK

[Text] The foreign ministers of India and Ireland had talks on wide-ranging subjects including bilateral relations in New Delhi today for about 2 hours. Mr Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Mr Michael O'Kennedy were assisted in the talks by the members of their delegations.

The two ministers agreed that there is large potential for development of bilateral cooperation in the trade, economic and cultural fields. Officials of the two sides should get t gether to work out concrete programs for cooperation. The Indian side urged Mr O'Kennedy to use his country's influence with the EEC to make it a more forward-looking organization.

Other topics that came up for discussion included disarmament with special reference to the forthcoming UN session on this issue and international economic relations. The Irish foreign minister extended an invitation to Mr Vajpayee to visit his country.

VAJPAYEE COMMENTS ON RELATIONS WITH U.S., PRC, PAKISTAN

BK251046Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 25 Jan 78 BK

[Text] The external affairs minister has said the policy of genuine nonalinement followed by the Janata government has started paying dividends. Without weakening ties with the Soviet Union, the policy has enabled the country to turn a new leaf in its relations with the United States.

Speaking in the "Meet the People Program" of All-India Radio. Mr Atal Bihari Vajpayee denied that there had been a tilt in favor of the United States under the new government. He said if at all there had been any tilt in the past, it has now been set right. India's foreign policy has regained its original positive thrust.

Mr Vajpayee said nonalinement does not mean neutrality. He described it as a projection of a country's sovereignty in world affairs.

The external affairs minister said the new government policy is to give top priority to promote friendly relations with neighboring countries. About China, he said India has taken several steps to normalize relations with that country, notwithstanding the territorial question. In this connection, he referred to the restoration of contacts in the fields of sports, health, agriculture and trade. He said India wants peace and friendship with China, but it takes two to make friends. Problems between the two countries have to be settled on the principle of peaceful coexistence.

Referring to his coming visit to Pakistan, Mr Vajpayee said it will be a good-will visit to establish personal rapport with the leaders of that country. He said if the issue of Kashmir is raised during his visit, he will reaffirm categorically that the whole of Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India. The interest of the state will be kept in mind whenever Kashmir is discussed.

On the nuclear energy issue, the external affairs minister said India will not be pressured. He said that at the moment we have no plans to make peaceful atomic explosions, but this decision has not been made under any pressure. India does not want to lag behind in nuclear technology. Mr Vajpayee made it clear that India will not allow international inspection of nuclear plants built with our own know-how and technology unless the big powers agree to similar inspection of their installations. He said those who continue to pile up atomic weapons have no right to give moral lectures.

NEPAL

NEPAL REPORTS ON IMPORT OF CHINESE CONSUMER GOODS

BK201511Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1501 GMT 20 Jan 78 BK

[Text] Katmandu, Jan 20 (AFP)--Nepal is importing consumer goods worth 120 million rupees from People's China this year to meet local demands, an official source said here today.

Of this amount, goods worth 70 million rupees will arrive soon. They include clothes, machinery tools, consumer goods and newsprint, and were selected at a recent trade fair in Canton, southern China.

The products are imported from China under an economic assistance scheme and proceeds from sales will be used to finance Chinese-aided development projects.

The semi-official National Trading Corporation, meanwhile, has cut the price of Chinese imports by between 7 and 12 percent for consumer goods and up to 20 percent for educational items.

Though enjoying monopoly in exports and imports, the corporation was facing heavy losses because of poor management and administrative inefficiency. The corporation has reportedly incurred large bank debts, which it hopes to pay off through the quick sales of the Chinese goods.

Chinese imports are cheaper than Indian products by 20 to 35 percent and were very popular among Indian tourists. India and Nepal are negotiating an anti-smuggling agreement to check the inflow of these goods.

BRIEFS

INDIAN CREDIT FOR SRI LANKA--India and Sri Lanka have signed an agreement in New Delhi under which a credit of rupees 100 million will be given by India to finance the export of capital and intermediate goods. The credit will finance purchases in India of a variety of goods like diesels, electrical and telecommunication equipment, steel billets and wire rods. [Text] [Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 25 Jan 78 BK]

INDIAN ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE--The national income in 1976-77 increased only by 1.4 percent. There was a fall of 0.6 percent in the per capita income during the year because of an overall increase of 2 percent in population. First estimates prepared by the central statistics organization say that the growth rate was low because of the decline in agricultural production. At the 1970-71 prices, the national income was estimated at 401.64 billion rupees in 1976-77, an increase of 5.58 billion rupees over the previous year. Per capita income was 655 rupees, showing a decline of 4 rupees compared to the previous year. [Text] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 23 Jan 78 BK]

CANADIAN LOAN TO PAKISTAN--Canada is to provide Pakistan an interest-free loan of $16 million for the purchase of equipment for railway diesel electric locomotives. An agreement to this effect was signed in Islamabad 25 January. The loan is repayable over a period of 50 years including a 10-year grace period. [Karachi Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 25 Jan 78 BK]

WEST GERMAN AID TO SRI LANKA--West Germany, in cooperation with the world food program, is to provide funds for the construction of warehouses in Sri Lanka. The program aims at providing sufficient storage facilities for paddy during the next harvest. [Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 25 Jan 78 BK]

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